



**The Meeting Transcript of
The Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors**



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1 [REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION ON
2 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2010 BEGINS ON PAGE 195.]

3
4
5
6 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** GOOD MORNING. WE'RE GOING TO BEGIN THIS
7 MORNING'S MEETING. IF I COULD ASK EVERYONE TO TAKE A SEAT,
8 WE'D APPRECIATE IT. OUR INVOCATION WILL BE LED BY PASTOR JIM
9 TOLLE, THE CHURCH ON THE WAY IN VAN NUYS. OUR PLEDGE OF
10 ALLEGIANCE WILL BE LED BY GEORGE GRAHAM, WHO IS A MEMBER OF
11 THE JACKIE ROBINSON POST NUMBER 252, THE AMERICAN LEGION.
12 WOULD YOU ALL PLEASE STAND? THANK YOU. PASTOR?

13
14 **PASTOR JIM TOLLE:** THANK YOU, SUPERVISORS. LET'S PRAY. OUR
15 FATHER IN HEAVEN, TODAY WE BLESS THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND
16 THESE SUPERVISORS WHO STEWARD THIS WONDERFUL HERITAGE. IN THIS
17 MONTH OF THANKSGIVING, WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE
18 ABUNDANCES YOU HAVE GIVEN TO US. TODAY WE ASK THAT YOU HEAL
19 AND STRENGTHEN US AS A PEOPLE FOR WE ARE FROM EVERY BACKGROUND
20 AND EVERY PERSUASION UNDER THE SUN. WE ASK THIS YOU BLESS US
21 WITH PRODUCTIVITY AND WITH HONORABLE INDUSTRY SO THAT THE
22 NEEDS OF ALL IN THIS COUNTY MIGHT BE MET. WE ASK THAT YOU SHED
23 FORTH YOUR PEACE AND YOUR SAFETY, THROUGH THE FURTHEST REACHES
24 OF THIS COUNTY'S HEART. WE ASK THAT YOU HELP US TRAIN OUR
25 OFFSPRING, OUR YOUTH IN THE WAY THAT THEY SHOULD GO, THAT THEY



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1 MAY TRULY LEAD FULFILLED LIVES. WE ASK THAT YOU GRANT US THE
2 COURAGE TO BE UNITED AS A PEOPLE IN DOING YOUR WILL. WE ASK
3 THAT YOU SAVE US FROM EVERY TYPE OF LOSS OR RUIN OR EVIL AND
4 ASK THAT YOU FORGIVE US OUR WEAKNESSES, OUR INDULGENCES. LEAD
5 US IN YOUR PATHS FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS' SAKE. OH GOD, GRANT US THE
6 GENEROSITY OF CARE FOR EVERYONE AMONG US, FOR THOSE LESS
7 FORTUNATE THAN OURSELVES OR THOSE WHO HAVE DIFFERENT
8 BACKGROUNDS, LET US ALWAYS LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR AS OURSELVES. NOW
9 WE PRAY, ILLUMINATE THE MINDS OF THOSE WHO LEAD US, GUIDE THEM
10 BY THAT WHICH IS RIGHT, GIVE THEM JOY AS THEY SERVE US. AS WE
11 SEEK THIS COUNTY'S WELFARE, WE ASK THAT YOU EMPOWER US BY YOUR
12 SPIRIT. LEAD US BY YOUR LAW AND YOUR TRUTH, MOTIVATE US BY
13 YOUR LOVE. OH MERCIFUL GOD, BLESS THIS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
14 WHICH WE LOVE SO MUCH. AMEN.

15

16 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** AMEN.

17

18 **GEORGE GRAHAM:** WOULD YOU PLEASE FACE THE FLAG, PLACE YOUR
19 HANDS OVER YOUR HEARTS. [PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE RECITED.]

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY? THANK YOU AGAIN.

22

23 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** MADAME CHAIR, WE'RE HONORED TODAY TO BE LED
24 IN PRAYER BY JIM TOLLE, WHO IS THE SENIOR PASTOR OF LA IGLESIA
25 EN EL CAMINO, THE CHURCH ON THE WAY IN VAN NUYS, A SPANISH



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1 EVANGELICAL CONGREGATION. UNDER PASTOR TOLLE'S LEADERSHIP, THE
2 CHURCH HAS BECOME ONE OF THE LARGEST CONGREGATIONS OF ITS
3 DENOMINATION IN THE COUNTRY. PASTOR TOLLE HOSTS A DAILY RADIO
4 PROGRAM AS WELL AS A WEEKLY TELEVISION BROADCAST, IS A WIDELY-
5 TRAVELED CONFERENCE SPEAKER. AS A YOUNG MAN-- HE'S STILL A
6 YOUNG MAN-- HE SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN VIETNAM. HE
7 IS MARRIED, HAS FOUR SONS AND JUST ON A PERSONAL NOTE, TELL
8 YOU THAT I CONSIDER HIM A GREAT PERSONAL FRIEND AND FRIEND OF
9 THE COMMUNITY AND RUNS ONE OF THE GREAT CHURCHES, NOT JUST IN
10 OUR DISTRICT, BUT IN THE ENTIRE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. THANK
11 YOU VERY MUCH FOR BEING WITH US.

12

13 **PASTOR JIM TOLLE:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [APPLAUSE.]

14

15 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANKS AGAIN. SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS?

16

17 **SUP. RIDLEY-THOMAS:** THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR. I'M DELIGHTED TO
18 BRING FORTH GEORGE GRAHAM, WHO HAS LIVED IN THE SECOND
19 DISTRICT FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS. HE'S A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN
20 LEGION JACKIE ROBINSON POST NUMBER 252. HE SERVED AS A
21 SERGEANT IN THE U.S. AIR FORCE IN THE 405TH COMBAT SUPPORT
22 GROUP AND WAS STATIONED IN VIETNAM FROM 1969 UNTIL 1973. HE
23 RECEIVED A NUMBER OF AWARDS AND DECORATIONS THAT INCLUDE A
24 GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL, NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL, VIETNAM
25 CAMPAIGN MEDAL AND A REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL. MR.



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1 GRAHAM GRADUATED FROM WOODROW WILSON VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN
2 NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE IN NEW YORK CITY. HE IS MARRIED WITH
3 FOUR CHILDREN AND IS CURRENTLY RETIRED. HE IS A COMMUNITY
4 ACTIVIST OF CONSEQUENCE AS HE HAS DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF FOR A
5 LONG TIME WITH ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE COMMUNITY COALITION,
6 AND IF YOU EVER SEE HIM ON THE DANCE FLOOR, YOU SHOULD STEP
7 BACK BECAUSE HE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN. SO MR. GRAHAM, WE ARE
8 DELIGHTED THAT YOU ARE HERE TODAY AND WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR
9 SERVICE TO OUR NATION AND SALUTING THE FLAG AND LEADING US IN
10 THAT ENDEAVOR. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [APPLAUSE.]

11
12 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE
13 OUR EXECUTIVE OFFICER CALL THE AGENDA, PLEASE.

14
15 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** GOOD MORNING, MADAME CHAIR, MEMBERS OF THE
16 BOARD. WE WILL BEGIN TODAY'S AGENDA ON PAGE 3, PRESENTATION OF
17 SET MATTERS. ON ITEM S-1, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REQUESTS
18 THAT THIS ITEM BE CONTINUED ONE WEEK TO NOVEMBER 23RD, 2010.
19 ON ITEM S-2, AS INDICATED ON THE POSTED AGENDA, THE INTERIM
20 DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES REQUESTS THAT THIS BE CONTINUED
21 TWO WEEKS TO NOVEMBER 30, 2010.

22
23 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT.



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1 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** ON PAGE 4, AGENDA FOR AGENDA FOR THE
2 MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, ITEM 1-D.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MOVED BY SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY, SECONDED
5 BY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS. IF THERE'S NO OBJECTION, SO
6 ORDERED.

7

8 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ITEMS 1 THROUGH 7. ON
9 ITEM NUMBER 2, SUPERVISOR MOLINA AND A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC
10 REQUEST THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ON ITEM NUMBER 5, THERE'S A
11 REQUEST FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO HOLD THIS ITEM. THE
12 REMAINING ITEMS UNDER THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ARE BEFORE YOU.

13

14 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ON THOSE REMAINING ITEMS, MOVED BY
15 SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS.
16 IF THERE'S NO OBJECTION, SO ORDERED.

17

18 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** WE'RE ON PAGE 8, CONSENT CALENDAR, ITEMS 8
19 THROUGH 40. ON ITEM NUMBER 8, THIS INCLUDES THE REVISIONS AS
20 INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA, AND ALSO SUPERVISOR
21 YAROSLAVSKY WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORTS
22 ON THE IMPLEMENTATION, EXPENDITURES AND DATA RESULTS OF THE
23 ENTERPRISE LINKHAGE PROJECT. ON ITEM NUMBER 11, THE INTERIM
24 DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES REQUESTS THAT RECOMMENDATION 2,
25 WHICH IS TO AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM DIRECTOR TO ESTABLISH THE



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1 PHYSICIAN SERVICES FOR INDIGENTS PROGRAM REIMBURSEMENT RATE
2 FOR FUTURE FISCAL YEARS BEGINNING WITH FISCAL YEAR 2011/'12 BE
3 REFERRED BACK TO HIS DEPARTMENT. THAT'S ITEM NUMBER 11. ON
4 ITEM NUMBER 14, THERE'S A REQUEST FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC
5 TO HOLD THIS ITEM. ON ITEM NUMBER 30, THE CHAIR REQUESTS THAT
6 THIS ITEM BE MOVED INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT
7 CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBSECTION C. ITEM NUMBER 30. AND ON
8 ITEM NUMBER 37, THERE'S A REQUEST FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC
9 TO HOLD THIS ITEM. THE REMAINING ITEMS ARE BEFORE YOU.

10

11 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ON THOSE REMAINING ITEMS, MOVED SECONDED
12 BY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR
13 ANTONOVICH. IF THERE'S NO OBJECTION, SO ORDERED.

14

15 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** WE'RE NOW ON PAGE 20, PUBLIC HEARING. ON
16 THIS ITEM, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA, SUPERVISOR
17 KNABE'S AMENDMENT RELATED TO THE ORDINANCE WILL BE BEFORE YOUR
18 BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION WHEN THE PUBLIC HEARING ITEM IS TAKEN
19 UP. IN ADDITION, SUPERVISOR MOLINA AND SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-
20 THOMAS'S RECOMMENDATION, AS INDICATED ON THE SUPPLEMENTAL
21 AGENDA, DOES NOT RELATE TO THE ORDINANCE AND ACCORDINGLY THE
22 BOARD SHOULD TAKE SEPARATE ACTION ON THIS MATTER. AGAIN, WE
23 WILL HOLD ITEM NUMBER 41 FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING. ON PAGE 22,
24 MISCELLANEOUS ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA WHICH WERE POSTED MORE
25 THAN 72 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING, AS INDICATED ON THE



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1 SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA, ON ITEM NUMBER 42-A, SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-
2 THOMAS WOULD LIKE TO REVISE HIS RECOMMENDATION ON ITEM 1-B OF
3 HIS MOTION TO STATE A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PAYMENT
4 METHODOLOGY TO PRIVATE COMMUNITY CLINICS, HOSPITAL PARTNERS
5 AND ANY OTHER PROVIDERS THAT WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE COUNTY'S
6 WAIVER PROGRAM AND ALSO ON THIS ITEM, SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY
7 AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC REQUEST THAT THIS ITEM BE HELD. ON
8 PAGE 24, NOTICES OF CLOSED SESSION, ON ITEM NUMBER C.S.-2,
9 COUNTY COUNSEL REQUESTS THAT THIS ITEM BE CONTINUED ONE WEEK
10 TO NOVEMBER 23, 2010. THAT COMPLETES THE READING OF THE
11 AGENDA. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL ITEMS BEGIN WITH
12 SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT NUMBER 4.

13

14 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. I HAVE SOME SPECIAL
15 PRESENTATIONS THAT I WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN WITH. OH, YOU HAVE
16 THE SCROLLS? I DIDN'T KNOW IF WE HAD THEM OR NOT. IS MR.
17 COOLEY HERE? OH, OKAY. WELL, THIS MORNING, WE HAVE SOME VERY
18 SPECIAL FOLKS THAT WE ARE HONORING TODAY. THESE ARE, QUOTE,
19 OUR NOVEMBER STARS. NOW OUR STARS, WE DESIGNATE EVERY SINGLE
20 MONTH OUR OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYEE GROUPS HAVE
21 CREATED SOME INNOVATIONS AND EFFECTIVENESS AS TO HOW TO CARRY
22 OUT THE GOOD WORK THAT THEY DO. OUR FIRST TEAM HERE TODAY IS
23 LED BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY STEVE COOLEY. UNFORTUNATELY, HE
24 WASN'T ABLE TO JOIN US THIS MORNING, BUT ALSO IS OUR EXECUTIVE
25 OFFICER, SACHI HAMAI IS HERE. OUR I.S.D. DIRECTOR, TOM



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1 TINDALL, I.S.D. SENIOR INFORMATION SPECIALIST, TERRANCE
2 GOUCWAA, AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS ADVISORY BOARD DIRECTOR, JOHN
3 REG. IN 2008, THE D.A. AND I.S.D. LAUNCHED AN E-SUBPOENA
4 PROJECT, A FULLY INTEGRATED DELIVERY SYSTEM THAT REPLACED A
5 VERY ANTIQUATED PAPER SUBPOENA DELIVERY PROCESS. PRIOR TO E-
6 SUBPOENA, DELAYS AND ERRORS IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF SUBPOENAS
7 OFTEN OCCURRED, WHICH IN TURN MADE IT NECESSARY FOR THE
8 DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND HIS STAFF TO MAKE MULTIPLE FOLLOW-UP
9 PHONE CALLS TO AVOID CASE CONTINUANCE OR DISMISSALS. NOW
10 NEARLY 75 PERCENT OF ALL SUBPOENAS ARE SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO
11 VARIOUS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY, WHICH
12 SIGNIFICANTLY SAVES, OF COURSE, TIME, MONEY AS WELL AS THE
13 RESOURCES THAT WE HAVE. THE PROJECT, OF COURSE, IS AN
14 OVERWHELMING SUCCESS. THE PROJECT HAS SAVED COUNTLESS D.A. AND
15 L.A.P.D. STAFF HOURS AND ITS SUCCESS HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED BY
16 THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION AS WELL AS
17 THEIR QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY COMMITTEE. ALSO, I'M PROUD TO
18 REPORT THAT OVER ONE DOZEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES HAVE
19 EXPRESSED INTEREST IN WORKING WITH OUR D.A. TO IMPLEMENT THE
20 E-SUBPOENA WITHIN THEIR ORGANIZATIONS. I THINK WE SHOULD
21 APPLAUD THIS TEAM FOR AN OUTSTANDING JOB. CONGRATULATIONS.
22 [APPLAUSE.]

23

24 **TOM TINDALL:** WE'RE VERY PLEASED TO BE A PART OF THIS TIME, THE
25 MONEY SAVING AND PAPER SAVING EFFORT. THE I.S.D. WAS INCLUDED



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1 WITH THE D.A., WHO WE THANK FOR ALLOWING US TO BE A PART OF
2 THE TEAM AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER BOARD AND, OF COURSE, WE
3 THANK THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THIS WONDERFUL RECOGNITION.
4 THANK YOU ALL.

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU ALL. LET'S TAKE A PICTURE.
7 CONGRATULATIONS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [APPLAUSE.]

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU FOR THAT APPLAUSE. THEY DO
10 DESERVE THAT. OUR SECOND TEAM CREATED OUTBOUND DIALING SYSTEM
11 WHICH IS CURRENTLY UTILIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL
12 SERVICES. JOINING US IS OUR D.P.S.S. CHIEF DEPUTY SHERYL
13 SPILLER, AGAIN TOM TINDALL AND TEAM MEMBERS WITH D.P.S.S. AS
14 WELL AS I.S.D.. THE OUTBOUND DIALING SYSTEM IS AN AUTOMATED
15 TELEPHONE MESSAGE DELIVERY SYSTEM THAT REACHES AS MANY AS
16 40,000. D.P.S.S. PARTICIPANTS AND CONSUMERS PER DAY. THE
17 SYSTEM ENHANCES CUSTOMER SERVICE AS WELL AS IMPROVES
18 PARTICIPATION RATES AND HELPS REACH OUT TO THE MOST VULNERABLE
19 OF OUR CLIENTS IN THE EVENT OF EMERGENCIES SUCH AS WILDFIRE,
20 HEAT WAVES OR EXTREME COLD WEATHER. NUMEROUS RECORDED MESSAGES
21 IN ENGLISH AS WELL AS NINE OTHER LANGUAGES HAVE EXPANDED
22 D.P.S.S.'S COMMUNICATION CAPABILITIES AND IMPROVED CUSTOMER
23 SERVICE. THE SYSTEM REMINDS PARTICIPANTS ABOUT SCHEDULED
24 APPOINTMENTS, IMPORTANT DEADLINES AS WELL AS DEADLINES TO
25 BENEFITS. SINCE ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN JUNE OF 2010, THE SYSTEM



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1 HAS COMPLETED OVER ONE MILLION SUCCESSFUL CALLS AND IS BEING
2 USED BY OUR CALWORKS, GAIN, FOOD STAMPS, MEDI-CAL AND I.H.S.S.
3 PROGRAM. I CONGRATULATE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU. THIS IS
4 VERY INNOVATIVE. CONGRATULATIONS. LET'S GIVE THEM A ROUND OF
5 APPLAUSE. [APPLAUSE.] AND ASK MISS SPILLER TO COME UP AND
6 SHARE A FEW WORDS.

7

8 **SHERYL SPILLER:** THANK YOU. YOU KNOW, ON BEHALF OF PHILIP
9 BROWNING, I WANT TO THANK YOU, THANK THE BOARD FOR THIS
10 RECOGNITION. ALSO, THE C.E.O. FOR ALWAYS ENCOURAGING
11 DEPARTMENTS TO COME UP WITH EFFICIENCIES AND THEN FOR
12 SUPPORTING THE DEPARTMENTS WHEN THEY DO. THIS IS JUST ONE
13 EXAMPLE OF THAT KIND OF EFFICIENCY. WE TALKED ABOUT ALL OF THE
14 PARTICIPANTS THAT WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO OUTREACH TO AND PHIL
15 ISNOW ASKING THAT WE USE THIS IN ANOTHER WAY, TOO. WE'RE
16 LOOKING AT GETTING-- COLLECTING INFORMATION ON EMERGENCY
17 INFORMATION, TELEPHONE NUMBERS FROM ALL OF OUR EMPLOYEES SO
18 THAT IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY, WE CAN ACTUALLY CONTACT
19 12,000 EMPLOYEES IN JUST A MATTER OF MINUTES. ANOTHER THING WE
20 THOUGHT ABOUT WAS THAT MAYBE EVEN FOR THE POLL WORKERS, FOR
21 OUTREACHING TO EMPLOYEES TO BECOME POLL WORKERS, SO THIS WILL
22 ALLOW US TO MAKE FURTHER USE OF AN INNOVATIVE IDEA, SO THANK
23 YOU VERY MUCH.

24

25 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** LET'S CONGRATULATE THEM. [APPLAUSE.]



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1
2 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** AND LET'S NOT GET TOO CLOSE TO THE
3 CURTAIN. OUR NEXT TEAM IS IN THE CATEGORY OF WORKFORCE
4 EXCELLENCE, ADMINISTERING THE COUNTY-WIDE VETERANS
5 INTERPRETSHIP PROGRAM KNOWN AS V.I.P. JOINING THE TEAM, OUR
6 HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR, LISA GARRETT AND OUR C.E.O., BILL
7 FUJIOKA. IN 2006, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS UNANIMOUSLY
8 APPROVED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE V.I.P. AND IT SUCCESSFULLY
9 LAUNCHED IN MAY OF 2007. THE PROGRAM IS MANAGED BY THE
10 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND PROVIDES PAID INTERNSHIPS
11 FOR QUALIFIED U.S. ARMED FORCES VETERANS. THESE INTERNSHIPS
12 PROVIDE VALUABLE ON-THE-JOB TRAINING AND WORK EXPERIENCE WHICH
13 ENABLES THESE VETERANS TO EFFECTIVELY COMPETE FOR PERMANENT
14 COUNTY JOBS. INTERNS RECEIVE COMPETITIVE ENTRY LEVEL SALARIES
15 AS WELL AS MEDICAL AND DENTAL BENEFITS. SINCE ITS INCEPTION,
16 16 DEPARTMENTS HAVE HIRED 82 VETERANS, INTERNS AND 49 HAVE
17 BECOME PERMANENT COUNTY EMPLOYEES. I THINK THAT'S A SUCCESSFUL
18 RECORD. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH-- DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
19 RESOURCES AS WELL AS THE C.O.O. CREATED SIX CLASSIFICATIONS
20 FOR VETERANS INTERNS WITH APPROPRIATE COMPENSATION AND BENEFIT
21 PACKAGES AND THEIR THOUGHTFUL OVERSIGHT HAS CONTRIBUTED OF
22 COURSE TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS GREAT PROGRAM. SO PLEASE JOIN ME
23 IN CONGRATULATING LISA, BILL AND THE ENTIRE V.I.P. TEAM FOR
24 THE ADMIRABLE COLLABORATION AND ON BEHALF OF THE ALL THE MEN
25 AND WOMEN IN SERVICE, CONGRATULATIONS. WELL DONE. [APPLAUSE.]



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1

2 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SO, LISA, DO YOU WANT TO SHARE A FEW
3 WORDS?

4

5 **LISA GARRETT:** THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR MOLINA AND I THANK YOU,
6 THE BOARD, FOR THIS WONDERFUL RECOGNITION OF THE V.I.P.
7 PROGRAM BECAUSE IT REALLY CELEBRATES THE V.I.P.S OF OUR
8 COUNTRY, THOSE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED OUR COUNTRY IN
9 THE ARMED SERVICES. AS SUPERVISOR MOLINA INDICATED, OVER 80
10 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN GIVEN EMPLOYMENT IN THE COUNTY OF LOS
11 ANGELES AND 49 OF THEM HAVE RECEIVED PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT WITH
12 THE COUNTY, AND I DO THINK THOSE ARE ASTOUNDING, THAT'S A
13 GREAT NUMBER FOR OUR COUNTY. IT BENEFITS US AND IT BENEFITS
14 THE VETERANS COMMUNITY. SO I DO WANT TO SAY ON BEHALF OF ALL
15 OF THE DEDICATED MEN AND WOMEN THAT WORK THIS PROGRAM IN THE
16 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND D.H.R., I THANK THE C.E.O. AND THIS
17 BOARD FOR BRINGING THIS PROGRAM TO FRUITION FOR OUR VETERANS
18 IN THE ARMED SERVICES. THANK YOU AGAIN AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO
19 EVEN MORE NUMBERS NEXT YEAR. [APPLAUSE.]

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** PLEASE JOIN ME IN GIVING THEM ONE LAST
22 ROUND OF APPLAUSE. ALL OF THESE FOLKS DO A TERRIFIC JOB. WE
23 ALWAYS HEAR ABOUT THE BAD THINGS THE COUNTY EMPLOYEES DID.
24 THIS IS REALLY POSITIVE WORK THAT THEY DO OUTSIDE OF THEIR
25 EVERYDAY WORK, SO WE CONGRATULATE THEM AND THANK THEM. NEXT,



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1 I'M GOING TO CALL ON SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH FOR HIS
2 PRESENTATION. AVIANA?

3

4 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WE JUST HAVE ONE LITTLE GIRL NAMED ROSY WHO
5 IS 10 MONTHS OLD. SHE'S A LITTLE CHIHUAHUA MIX WHO IS LOOKING
6 FOR A HOME. SO ROSY IS VERY LOVABLE. YOU CAN CALL (562) 728-
7 4644. ANYBODY IN THE AUDIENCE WHO WOULD LIKE TO ADOPT LITTLE
8 ROSY, SHE'S AVAILABLE. OKAY? OKAY.

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. WE HAVE A WHOLE GROUP OF VERY
11 SHY YOUNG PEOPLE HERE, BUT ACTUALLY, THEY'RE WONDERFUL
12 CHAMPIONS, AND I WANT THEM TO COME UP AND JOIN US. I'D LIKE TO
13 PRESENT THEM EACH TO YOU. WE ARE RECOGNIZING TODAY, AGAIN,
14 SOME VERY, VERY SPECIAL INDIVIDUALS AS WELL AS THE CHILDREN
15 WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE FIRST DISTRICT'S "GREEN BAG FOR A CLEAN
16 EARTH" PROGRAM. JOINING US AS WELL IS, OF COURSE, OUR BAG GUY.
17 COME ON UP, MR. BAG GUY. CALL HIM THE BAG MONSTER. ALL RIGHT.
18 MY OFFICE, OF COURSE, HAS LAUNCHED A PROGRAM IN THE EAST SIDE
19 OF LOS ANGELES. WE HAVE GONE THROUGH THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY.
20 IT'S A PROGRAM IN WHICH WE HAVE EDUCATED OVER 3,000 ELEMENTARY
21 SCHOOL KIDS TO BECOME JUNIOR EARTH DEFENDERS. THE KIDS WERE
22 MADE AWARE OF THE DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS OF PLASTIC BAGS ON OUR
23 ENVIRONMENT AND THEY HAVE CONVINCED FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO USE
24 ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY REUSABLE BAGS, AND, OF COURSE, THIS
25 WAS TRULY A TEAM EFFORT. OUR PRIMARY PARTNERS WERE THE SAN



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1 GABRIEL CONSERVATION CORPS HEAL THE BAY AND, OF COURSE, THEIR
2 EFFORTS HAVE BEEN INVALUABLE. WE'VE ALSO HAD OUR OWN
3 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS HAS DONE AN OUTSTANDING JOB IN THAT
4 PROGRAM. SO DURING THAT TIME, 7,523 PLASTIC BAGS WERE NOT
5 UTILIZED IN THE FIRST DISTRICT AND WE BROUGHT A NEW LEVEL OF
6 AWARENESS TO THE FIRST DISTRICT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

7 [APPLAUSE.]

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WE HAVE BEEN VERY PROUD THAT SEVERAL OF
10 OUR LOCAL GROCERY STORES AGREED TO ACCEPT REUSABLE BAGS AND
11 PROVIDE A FUN STICKER, AND IT'S AN EFFORT ON THE PART OF THESE
12 GROCERY STORES FOR EACH USE, AND, OF COURSE, OUR SPONSORS HAVE
13 CONTRIBUTED FUNDS AS WELL AS THOUSANDS OF REUSABLE BAGS THAT
14 THE CHILDREN TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN. THEY HAVE SIGNED UP TO DO
15 THIS, THEY GET STICKERS, THEY CONVINCE THEIR PARENTS, THEY
16 CONVINCE THEIR COUSINS, THEY CONVINCE THEIR NEIGHBORS THAT
17 EVERY SINGLE TIME THEY GO INTO THE STORE, THEY BRING IN THIS
18 LITTLE CARD AND THEY PUT A STICKER ON IT AND THAT GIVES THEM A
19 PATHWAY TO UNBELIEVABLE PRIZES. WE NEED TO CREATE AN INCENTIVE
20 AS WELL, AND THERE'S EVERYTHING FROM DODGER TICKETS AND SOCCER
21 TICKETS TO BICYCLES. WHO WON THE BICYCLE? THEY'RE NOT HERE?
22 ONE OF THEM WON A BICYCLE, WHICH WAS GREAT. THE ONES THAT WERE
23 ABLE TO JOIN US TODAY, LET ME INTRODUCE THEM. FIRST WE HAVE
24 JACQUELINE LOPEZ. SHE IS FROM ROWAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND SHE
25 EARNED 192 STICKERS. CONGRATULATIONS, JACQUELINE. [APPLAUSE.]



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1

2 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SMILE. ALL RIGHT. AND THEN WE HAVE
3 CRYSTAL, AND CRYSTAL SOLIS OF HAMASAKI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4 EARNED 103 STICKERS. CONGRATULATIONS. [APPLAUSE.]

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THEN WE HAVE OSCAR CAMPOS OF CITY TERRACE
7 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND HE EARNED 96 STICKERS. NOW LOOK AT THAT
8 GREAT SMILE. CONGRATULATIONS. [APPLAUSE.]

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** AND THEN WE HAVE JOCELYN ALBA OF ROWAN
11 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WHICH EARNED 96 STICKERS. CONGRATULATIONS.
12 [APPLAUSE.]

13

14 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** AND GABRIEL IS NOT HERE, BUT HE ALSO WAS
15 SUCCESSFUL. I WANT TO THANK ALL OF THE FOLKS THAT HAVE BEEN A
16 PART OF IT. WE'VE HAD UNBELIEVABLE SPONSORS. I THANK THE
17 SCHOOL AND THE LEADERSHIP THAT THEY PROVIDED AS WELL. IT
18 INVOLVES A CURRICULUM. THE TEACHERS PARTICIPATE AS WELL.
19 THERE'S A WHOLE KIND OF ASSEMBLY AND PROGRAM. OUR BAG MONSTER
20 SHOWS UP AND TELLS THEM HOW MANY BAGS ARE GOING INTO OUR
21 OCEANS AND INTO OUR SEWERS AND INTO THE ENVIRONMENT AND VERY
22 FRANKLY, DOESN'T HAVE TO HAPPEN. SO TODAY WE HAVE A VERY
23 SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE THAT CHANGE FOR EVERYONE IN LOS
24 ANGELES COUNTY. WE HOPE THAT THE LEADERSHIP ROLE THAT THIS
25 COUNTY WILL HOPEFULLY BE TAKING, BUT, REALLY, THE PATHWAY TO



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1 ALL OF IT HAS BEEN THROUGH OUR CHILDREN. I THINK THESE YOUNG
2 PEOPLE UNDERSTAND AND RECOGNIZE THE KIND OF DANGERS THAT
3 PLASTIC BAGS ARE PROVIDING IN THE ENVIRONMENT. THEY HAVE BEEN
4 TEACHING THEIR FRIENDS, THEIR NEIGHBORS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND
5 LITTLE BY LITTLE, EVEN THOUGH WE CAN'T GET THE BIG GROCERY
6 STORES TO JOIN AND BE A SPONSOR HERE-- WHICH WE'RE ASHAMED OF,
7 AND THEY SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF THEMSELVES AS WELL-- WE'VE BEEN
8 ABLE TO GET A LOT OF GROCERY STORES IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS,
9 WHICH WE REALLY APPRECIATE, TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AND, OF
10 COURSE, MANY OF OUR SPONSORS AND MANY OF THE FOLKS THAT WERE
11 PART IN THE GIVING AND ALL OF THE SCHOOLS THAT HAVE SO
12 GENEROUSLY PARTICIPATED AND MADE THIS A PART OF THEIR
13 CURRICULUM. WOULD YOU JOIN ME IN GIVING A CONGRATULATIONS TO
14 EVERYBODY IN THE FIRST DISTRICT, EVERYONE WHO WAS A PART OF
15 IT. CONGRATULATIONS. WELL DONE. THANK YOU SO MUCH. I'M GOING
16 TO ASK HEAL THE BAY TO JOIN US AND SAY A FEW WORDS, IF THEY
17 WOULD, BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN A BIG PART OF SPONSORING AND
18 DOING A LOT OF THIS GREAT WORK AND EVEN THOUGH IT STARTED IN
19 THE FIRST DISTRICT, THEY HAVE BEEN MOVING IT FORWARD TO OTHER
20 SCHOOLS AS WELL.

21

22 **SPEAKER:** THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR MOLINA. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE
23 YOUR LEADERSHIP ON THIS CRITICAL ISSUE AND WE'RE ALL VERY
24 EXCITED TO BE HERE TODAY FOR THE GROUNDBREAKING ACTION THAT WE
25 HELPED YOU TO TAKE AND I JUST REALLY WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR



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1 PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT AT HEAL THE BAY. THEY'VE HAD SUCH A
2 PLEASURE WORKING WITH YOU GUYS IN MAKING THIS PROGRAM A GREAT
3 SUCCESS. THANK YOU.

4

5 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** CONGRATULATIONS. [APPLAUSE.] (OFF MIC.
6 CONVERSATIONS)

7

8 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** VERY GOOD. CONGRATULATIONS. AGAIN, THANK
9 YOU SO MUCH. THANK YOU.

10

11 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** MADAME CHAIR, ON ITEM C.S.-2, ORIGINALLY
12 WHEN I CALLED THE AGENDA, COUNTY COUNSEL HAD REQUESTED THIS
13 ITEM BE CONTINUED ONE WEEK. THEY ARE ASKING FOR
14 RECONSIDERATION TO HEAR IT TODAY.

15

16 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. IT'S BEEN MOVED BY--

17

18 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** C.S.-2.

19

20 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** C.S.-2, BACK GOING INTO CLOSED SESSION,
21 MOVED BY SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR
22 ANTONOVICH. IF THERE'S NO OBJECTION, SO ORDERED.

23

24 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** THANK YOU.

25



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1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. I THINK SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH,
2 WE'LL START WITH YOUR SPECIALS.

3

4 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WE MOVE TODAY-- WE MOVE TO ADJOURN IN THE
5 MEMORY OF A LONG TIME FRIEND, DOROTHY DASH, PASSED AWAY ON
6 SEPTEMBER 24THS AT THE AGE OF 85. SHE WAS QUITE INVOLVED IN
7 ALL OF THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES IN GLENDALE AND FROM THE
8 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, QUITE INVOLVED WITH THE REPUBLICAN PARTY
9 ACTIVITIES, WITH THE CULTURAL, THE ALEX THEATRE, THE VARIOUS
10 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS. SHE LEAVES BEHIND HER TWIN SISTER,
11 DOROTHY-- LEAVES BEHIND HER TWIN SISTER, DORIS. WILLIAM WHITE,
12 RESIDENT OF GLENDORA, LONG-TIME BUSINESS LEADER IN THE CITY OF
13 INDUSTRY, MEMBER OF THE INDUSTRY MANUFACTURERS' COUNCIL BOARD
14 OF DIRECTORS FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS. CHARLES SOPHY, SENIOR
15 MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT. HIS FATHER SENIOR, WAS THE
16 FATHER OF DR. CHARLES SOPHY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND
17 FAMILY SERVICES. HE ALSO OWNED AND OPERATED HIS OWN COAL
18 MINING BUSINESS. GLEN HOWARD GOODKNIGHT, CLASSMATE AT
19 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AT LOS ANGELES PASSED AWAY. HE WAS
20 THE FOUNDER OF THE MYTHOPOEIC SOCETY, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
21 TEACHER IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY FOR NEARLY 40 YEARS. SURVIVED BY
22 DAUGHTER AND SISTER, WAS AN AUTHORITY ON THE WRITINGS OF
23 TOLKIEN AND C.S. LEWIS, "THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA." WILLIAM
24 KERR, PASSED AWAY. HE WAS AN AIRLINE PILOT FOR T.W.A., TEST
25 PILOT FOR NORTHROP AND THEN BECAME PRESIDENT AND C.E.O. OF HIS



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1 FAMILY'S KERR GLASS MANUFACTURING COMPANY WHICH MANUFACTURERS
2 KERR GLASS JARS USED IN JAMS AND OTHER FOODS. HE IS SURVIVED
3 BY HIS DAUGHTER, SON AND HIS SISTER. LUCINDA "CINDY" HOLEXA,
4 RESIDENT OF ANTELOPE VALLEY, PASSED AWAY ON NOVEMBER 7TH.
5 ALLAN LEE CULLEN, SUCCESSFUL ALLSTATE INSURANCE AGENCY, WHICH
6 HE FOUNDED, WAS A MEMBER OF THE MANY LOCAL CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS
7 IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY. PHILIP FORBES, LONG-TIME RESIDENT OF
8 THE OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY. JAMES WRIGHT, RETIRED FROM THE
9 SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AERO BUREAU, ON FEBRUARY 17TH, 2004.
10 DULCE SALVADOR, RETIRED FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT IN 1990
11 FROM HER ASSIGNMENT AS FACILITIES PLANNING ASSISTANT, AND SHE
12 PASSED AWAY AT THE AGE OF 85. AND RICHARD KELLEY, PASSED AWAY
13 AT THE AGE OF 69, RETIRED DEPUTY WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
14 SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND HIS LAST ASSIGNMENT WAS IN THE
15 ANTELOPE VALLEY AT THE MIRA LOMA DETENTION CENTER. LET ME CALL
16 UP ITEM 41. I KNOW THERE ARE PEOPLE HERE.

17

18 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. ON ITEM 41, WE HAVE 60-- OKAY.
19 WE'RE GOING TO BEGIN BY HAVING EVERYONE WHO IS GOING TO
20 TESTIFY ON THIS ITEM TO BE SWORN IN, SO OUR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
21 WILL ADMINISTER THE OATH.

22

23 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** ALL THOSE WHO PLAN TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE
24 BOARD ON ITEM NUMBER 41, PLEASE STAND AND RAISE YOUR RIGHT
25 HAND TO BE SWORN IN. [ADMINISTERING OATH.]



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1

2 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** THANK YOU. YOU MAY BE SEATED. ON THIS ITEM,
3 MADAME CHAIR, IF I COULD JUST READ THE SHORT TITLE IN FOR THE
4 RECORD. THIS IS A HEARING TO CERTIFY THAT THE FINAL
5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO THE
6 BAN PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS IN THE LOS ANGELES UNINCORPORATED
7 AREAS HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN COMPLIANCE WITH CALIFORNIA
8 ENVIRONMENT QUALITY ACT. THANK YOU.

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** VERY GOOD. I'M GOING TO ASK OUR PUBLIC
11 WORKS DIRECTOR TO GIVE US A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THIS MAJOR
12 ORDINANCE. GAIL?

13

14 **GAIL FARBER:** THANK YOU, SUPERVISOR. GOOD MORNING. GAIL FARBER,
15 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS. WITH ME IS KOBE SKY OF ENVIRONMENTAL
16 PROGRAMS DIVISION, SUE DEPTAKARI [PH?] OUR DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND
17 ALSO SHARING IN THE PRESENTATION WILL BE MARIE FROM OUR
18 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, SAPPHOS. THE ITEM BEFORE YOU TODAY
19 IS A RECOMMENDATION TO CERTIFY THAT THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL
20 IMPACT REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO BAN SINGLE USE
21 PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY HAS BEEN
22 COMPLETED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL
23 QUALITY ACT AND REFLECTS THE INDEPENDENT JUDGMENT AND ANALYSIS
24 OF THE COUNTY. AND FIND THAT THE BOARD HAS REVIEWED AND
25 CONSIDERED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE FINAL E.I.R. PRIOR



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1 TO CONSIDERING APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT. WE ALSO
2 RECOMMEND THAT YOUR BOARD ADOPT THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE BANNING
3 SINGLE USE PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS AT CERTAIN STORES LOCATED IN
4 THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF THE COUNTY AND REQUIRING THESE
5 STORES TO CHARGE 10 CENTS PER SINGLE USE RECYCLABLE PAPER
6 CARRY OUT BAG PROVIDED TO CUSTOMERS. THE ORDINANCE WOULD BE
7 EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011, AT ALL SUPERMARKETS AND LARGE RETAIL
8 STORES WITH A PHARMACY, AND ON JANUARY 1ST, 2012, AT SMALL
9 GROCERY STORES, SMALL PHARMACIES, CONVENIENCE STORES AND FOOD
10 MARTS. WE ALSO ASK FOR YOUR BOARD TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF
11 PUBLIC WORKS TO COMMUNICATE AND COLLABORATE WITH INCORPORATED
12 CITIES AND LOCAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO ENCOURAGE THE 88
13 CITIES WITHIN THE COUNTY TO ADOPT ORDINANCE CONSISTENT WITH
14 THE COUNTY'S ORDINANCE IN ORDER TO COORDINATE LOCAL ACTION TO
15 REDUCE THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF SINGLE USE PLASTIC
16 BAGS. THE ITEM BEFORE YOU TODAY IS THE RESULT OF AN EXTENSIVE
17 SERIES OF ACTIONS SET IN MOTION BY YOUR BOARD IN APRIL OF 2007
18 WHEN YOUR BOARD INSTRUCTED THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE TO WORK
19 WITH THE DIRECTORS OF INTERNAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC WORKS TO
20 INVESTIGATE SINGLE USE PLASTIC AND PAPER BAG CONSUMPTION IN
21 THE COUNTY, CAMPAIGNS THAT URGE RECYCLING OF PAPER AND PLASTIC
22 BAGS AND THE PROS AND CONS OF ADOPTING A BAN OF SINGLE USE
23 PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS SIMILAR TO SAN FRANCISCO'S POLICY.
24 FOLLOWING OUR DEPARTMENT'S DEVELOPMENT OF A STAFF REPORT ON
25 JANUARY 22ND, 2008, YOUR BOARD ADOPTED THE VOLUNTARY SINGLE



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1 USE BAG REDUCTION AND RECYCLING PROGRAM WHOSE OBJECTIVE WAS TO
2 PROMOTE THE USE OF REUSABLE BAGS OVER SINGLE USE PLASTIC AND
3 PAPER CARRY OUT BAGS, INCREASE STORE RECYCLING OF PLASTIC BAGS
4 AND RAISE AWARENESS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS LITTERED
5 PLASTIC, CARRY OUT BAGS HAVE ON THE ENVIRONMENT. IN ADDITION,
6 YOUR BOARD DIRECTED THE C.E.O., WORKING WITH THE DIRECTOR OF
7 PUBLIC WORKS AND COUNTY COUNSEL TO PREPARE A DRAFT ORDINANCE
8 BANNING PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS AND TO COMPLETE IN A REVIEW
9 REQUIRED BY THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, PRIOR TO
10 SUBMITTING THE ORDINANCE. SHOULD THE VOLUNTARY BENCHMARKS
11 IDENTIFIED FOR THE VOLUNTARY PROGRAM NOT BE ACHIEVED, YOUR
12 BOARD WOULD CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE ORDINANCE. ALTHOUGH THE
13 PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN AND OUTREACH ASPECTS OF THE
14 VOLUNTARY SINGLE USE BAG REDUCTION AND RECYCLING PROGRAM,
15 INCLUDING THE "BRAG ABOUT YOUR BAG" CAMPAIGN, RAISED AWARENESS
16 OF THE IMPACTS OF SINGLE USE BAGS AND THE BENEFITS OF REUSABLE
17 BAGS, THE VOLUNTARY PROGRAM WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN ACHIEVING
18 ITS GOALS. OVER A TWO-YEAR PERIOD AND DESPITE REQUIREMENTS AND
19 STATE LAW, STORES IN THE COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREAS DID NOT
20 PROVIDE DATA THAT WOULD ENABLE PUBLIC WORKS STAFF TO DETERMINE
21 IF THE VOLUNTARY PROGRAM BENCHMARK OF 30 PERCENT DISPOSABLE
22 REDUCTION OF PLASTIC BAGS BY JULY 1, 2010, WAS MET. IN
23 ADDITION, THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THE VOLUNTARY PROGRAM, NOT
24 MORE THAN EIGHT STORES AT ANY GIVEN TIME HAD MET THE PROGRAM'S
25 MINIMUM PARTICIPATION LEVELS. THEREFORE, IT CANNOT BE



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1 DETERMINED IF THE VOLUNTARY PROGRAM TRANSLATED INTO A SHIFT IN
2 CONSUMER BEHAVIOR THAT WAS SIGNIFICANT ENOUGH TO ADDRESS THE
3 MAJOR OBJECTIVES OF THE COUNTY. THE ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS CAUSED
4 BY THESE PLASTIC BAGS ARE SEVERE: DEGRADATION TO OUR
5 WATERWAYS, HARM TO MARINE LIFE AND UNSIGHTLY LITTER ON OUR
6 CITY STREETS AND BEACHES. WHILE IT MAY NOT FEEL SIGNIFICANT TO
7 THE INDIVIDUAL TO ACCEPT A PLASTIC BAG WHEN PURCHASING AN
8 ITEM, THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT IS STAGGERING. APPROXIMATELY 6
9 BILLION PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS ARE CONSUMED IN LOS ANGELES
10 COUNTY EACH YEAR. EQUIVALENT TO APPROXIMATELY 1,600 BAGS PER
11 HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR, AND ALTHOUGH PLASTIC BAGS MAKE UP LESS
12 THAN HALF OF ONE PERCENT OF THE LITTER STREAM, STUDIES SHOW
13 THEY MAKE UP AS MUCH AS 25 PERCENT OF THE LITTER COLLECTED.
14 THIS IS DUE TO THE NATURE OF PLASTIC BAGS WHICH ARE VERY
15 LIGHTWEIGHT AND DO NOT DEGRADE IN THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.
16 MANY OF YOU ARE UNDOUBTEDLY FAMILIAR WITH THE DEVASTATION THEY
17 CAUSE TO MARINE LIFE AND ECOSYSTEMS. THIS IS WHY SO MANY
18 ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE HERE TODAY TO SUPPORT THE
19 ORDINANCE. PLASTIC BAG LITTER IS PARTICULARLY HARMFUL TO THE
20 REGION'S STORMWATER SYSTEM AND COASTAL WATERWAYS AND HAMPERS
21 THE ABILITY AND EXACERBATES THE COSTS TO LOCAL AGENCIES TO
22 COMPLY WITH THE NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION
23 SYSTEM OR N.P.D.E.S. AND TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS OR
24 T.M.D.L., LIMITS FOR TRASH, PURSUANT TO THE FEDERAL CLEAN
25 WATER ACT. WHILE WE DON'T OFTEN THINK ABOUT THE COSTS



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1 ASSOCIATED WITH PLASTIC BAGS BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT DIRECTLY
2 FELT BY THE CONSUMER, THE COSTS OF TREATING, MANAGING THIS
3 WASTE STREAM IS PASSED ON TO ALL RESIDENTS IN THE COUNTIES.
4 THAT'S WHY SO MANY CITIES AND PUBLIC AGENCIES SUPPORT BANS ON
5 SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS. DURING THIS PAST STATE LEGISLATIVE
6 SESSION, ASSEMBLYMEMBER JULIA BROWNLEY FROM SANTA MONICA
7 PROPOSED A.B.1898 WHICH WOULD HAVE PROHIBITED SUPERMARKETS AND
8 LARGE RETAIL STORES WITH A PHARMACY FROM PROVIDING A SINGLE
9 USE PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAG TO CUSTOMERS. AFTER EXTENSIVE
10 DISCUSSIONS AT THE STATE LEVEL AMONG NUMEROUS STAKEHOLDERS,
11 INCLUDING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS,
12 GROCERS AND INDUSTRY, AN AMENDED VERSION WAS DEVELOPED, WHICH
13 PLACED A CHARGE ON SINGLE USE PAPER BAGS AND EXPANDED THE BAN
14 TO A BROADER SECTION OF RETAIL FOOD STORES. ALTHOUGH THE BILL
15 WAS DEFEATED IN THE SENATE ON AUGUST 31ST, THE COUNTY
16 INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASKFORCE AND THE BOARD OF
17 SUPERVISORS SUPPORTED THE LEGISLATION, AS DID 145 OTHER
18 ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING STORES, LABOR UNIONS AND GOVERNMENT
19 OFFICIALS. BASED ON CONSULTATION WITH COUNTY COUNSEL AND THE
20 C.E.O., PUBLIC WORKS IS RECOMMENDING THAT YOUR BOARD ADOPT AN
21 ORDINANCE THAT LARGELY FOLLOWS THE FRAMEWORK OF A.B.1998, AS
22 MOST RECENTLY AMENDED, WHICH CORRESPONDENCE WITH ALTERNATIVE 5
23 AS ANALYZED IN THE FINAL E.I.R.. I WILL NOW ASK STAFF TO
24 PROVIDE SOME BRIEF ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING THE PROPOSED
25 ORDINANCE AND THE C.E.Q.A. PROCESS.



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1
2 **KOBE SKY:** THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS KOBE SKY, I'M
3 THE PROGRAM MANAGER FOR THE SINGLE USE BAG REDUCTION AND
4 RECYCLING PROGRAM AND I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK
5 ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR RECOMMENDATIONS. AS GAIL
6 MENTIONED, PUBLIC WORKS FACILITATED THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN
7 E.I.R. TO EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE
8 PROPOSED ORDINANCE. OUR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, SAPPHOS
9 ENVIRONMENTAL WILL DISCUSS THE FINDINGS OF THE E.I.R. SHORTLY.
10 ALTHOUGH NOT REQUIRED BY C.E.Q.A., PUBLIC WORKS ALSO INITIATED
11 THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT STUDY TO EVALUATE THE
12 POTENTIAL SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE ORDINANCE. THE STUDY
13 FOUND THAT THE AVERAGE EXPECTED COSTS RESULTING FROM A BAN ON
14 PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS AND THE IMPOSITION OF A CHARGE OF 10
15 CENTS ON PAPER CARRY OUT BAGS IS APPROXIMATELY \$5.72 PER
16 PERSON EACH YEAR. THE REPORT ONLY ADDED UP THE EXPECTED COSTS
17 OF ADOPTING THE ORDINANCE. THEIR REPORT DID NOT ATTEMPT TO
18 CALCULATE THE POTENTIAL PER CAPITA VALUE OF POTENTIAL SAVINGS
19 OR ADDED VALUE TO CUSTOMERS IN THE FORMS OF REDUCED TAXES FOR
20 LITTER ABATEMENT, INCREASED PROPERTY VALUES AND THE VALUES OF
21 OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS THAT ARE ASSOCIATED WITH A
22 PROPOSED ORDINANCE, DUE TO THE CHALLENGES OF PRECISELY
23 QUANTIFYING THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF THESE BENEFITS. THIS VALUE
24 WOULD MITIGATE AND MAY OUTWEIGH THE POTENTIAL PER CAPITA COSTS
25 THAT I JUST MENTIONED. SOME OTHER KEY FINDINGS OF THIS



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1 ECONOMIC STUDY INCLUDE THAT THE NET ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE
2 PROPOSED ORDINANCE IS TO STORES AND RETAILERS IS EXPECTED TO
3 BE NEGLIGIBLE AND MAY ACTUALLY REDUCE THEIR TRANSPORTATION AND
4 WAREHOUSE COSTS. IT ALSO FOUND THAT THE INCLUSION OF THE 10
5 CENT CHARGE ON PAPER BAGS IS EXPECTED TO HAVE A MEASURABLE
6 POSITIVE IMPACT ON CONSUMER BEHAVIOR AND ENCOURAGE MOST
7 CUSTOMERS TO USE REUSABLE BAGS OR TO AVOID USING ANY BAGS.
8 LASTLY, THE IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE ON LOWER INCOME
9 RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY IS EXPECTED TO BE NEGLIGIBLE,
10 ACCORDING TO THIS STUDY. AS GAIL DISCUSSED, THESE SINGLE USE
11 PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS AREN'T FREE. RESIDENTS IN L.A. COUNTY
12 CURRENTLY SPEND TENS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS MORE ON GROCERIES
13 EACH YEAR TO PAY FOR THE COSTS OF THESE SO-CALLED FREE SINGLE
14 USE BAGS WHICH ARE IMBEDDED IN THE COSTS OF GROCERIES. ON TOP
15 OF THAT, THEY PAY TO CLEAN UP LITTER, CLEAN OUT STORM DRAINS
16 AND OTHERWISE SUBSIDIZE THE COSTS OF THESE FREE BAGS. WE
17 BELIEVE THAT COUPLED WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS, THE
18 VALUE OF ELIMINATING SINGLE USE PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS
19 OUTWEIGHS ITS POTENTIAL COST. IN ADDITION, BY MAKING CUSTOMERS
20 AWARE OF THE COSTS OF SINGLE USE PAPER BAGS, THIS PROPOSED
21 ORDINANCE PROVIDES CUSTOMERS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHOOSE
22 WHETHER OR NOT TO PAY THIS COST. BY DECIDING TO USE A REUSABLE
23 BAG OR NOT USE BAGS AT ALL, CUSTOMERS CAN AVOID THE COST OF
24 PAPER BAGS. MOST CUSTOMERS ALREADY OFFER RECYCLABLE PAPER
25 CARRY OUT BAGS WHICH HAVE A 40 PERCENT POST-CONSUMER RECYCLED



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1 CONTENT AND THESE BAGS WILL CONTINUE TO BE AVAILABLE ONCE THE
2 ORDINANCE IS ADOPTED. LARGE SUPERMARKETS AND PHARMACIES ARE
3 ALSO REQUIRED TO OFFER REUSABLE BAGS FOR SALE FOR THEIR
4 CUSTOMERS AND MANY OTHER STORES HAVE THEM AVAILABLE AS WELL,
5 THE MOST COMMON TYPE OF REUSABLE BAGS WHICH ARE FOUND
6 THROUGHOUT STORES. THESE ARE SOME OF THE EXAMPLES. THESE ARE
7 SIMILAR TO THE BAGS THAT WE'VE BEEN GIVING AWAY TO RESIDENTS
8 AS PART OF OUR PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN. YOU CAN FIND
9 REUSABLE BAGS WIDELY AVAILABLE, THEY'RE USUALLY 99 CENTS IN
10 SOME CASES EVEN LESS, SO IT'S VERY EASY TO GET A REUSABLE BAG
11 AND THESE WILL LAST FOR YEARS. AS PART OF OUR ECONOMIC
12 EDUCATION EFFORTS, WE'LL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FREE USEABLE BAGS
13 TO ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO USE THEM. AT THIS TIME, I'D LIKE TO
14 TURN OVER THE PRESENTATION TO MARIE CAMPBELL FROM SOUTHWEST
15 ENVIRONMENTAL TO DISCUSS THE C.E.Q.A. PROCESS WHICH LED TO THE
16 DEVELOPMENT OF THE E.I.R. THAT'S BEFORE YOU.

17
18 **MARIE CAMPBELL:** GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS MARIE CAMPBELL. I'M
19 THE PRESIDENT OF SAPPHOS ENVIRONMENTAL, AND WE'RE THE
20 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING FIRM THAT WAS RETAINED BY THE COUNTY
21 TO ASSIST IN THE PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
22 REPORT. THAT PROCESS STARTS WITH AN IDENTIFIED PURPOSE AND
23 NEED. IN THIS CASE, CONSISTENT WITH THE NATIONAL AND
24 INTERNATIONAL DATA, THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF
25 PUBLIC WORKS DETERMINED THAT PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS



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1 CONSTITUTED A MEASURABLE AMOUNT OF THE LITTER THAT FOULS THE
2 FLOOD CONTROL SYSTEM AND ADVERSELY AFFECTS FRESHWATER AND
3 MARINE ENVIRONMENT. WE ALSO CONSIDERED THE FACT THAT
4 ORDINANCES HAD RECENTLY BEEN CONSIDERED BY AT LEAST 12 OTHER
5 JURISDICTIONS IN CALIFORNIA. MANY OF THESE ORDINANCES HAD BEEN
6 CHALLENGED UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT BY
7 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PLASTIC BAG INDUSTRY ON THE GROUNDS
8 THAT ADOPTION OF SUCH AN ORDINANCE COULD RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT
9 ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AS A RESULT OF GREATER CONSUMER
10 RELIANCE ON PAPER CARRY OUT BAGS. THEREFORE THE COUNTY OF LOS
11 ANGELES FULFILLED ITS OBLIGATIONS PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA
12 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT TO PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL
13 IMPACT REPORT TO QUALITATIVELY AND QUANTITATIVELY ASSESS THE
14 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF AN ORDINANCE TO BAN SINGLE USE
15 PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS. THE E.I.R. THAT WAS PREPARED ALSO
16 EVALUATES ALTERNATIVES TO THE ORDINANCE THAT FULFILL MOST OF
17 THE BASIC OBJECTIVES WHILE REDUCING OR AVOIDING POTENTIALLY
18 SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS. AS A RESULT OF THE INITIAL STUDY, FIVE OF
19 THE 17 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE AREAS WERE CARRIED FORWARD FOR
20 ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS IN THE E.I.R.: AIR QUALITY, BIOLOGICAL
21 RESOURCES, GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS, HYDROLOGY AND WATER
22 QUALITY AND UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. THE OTHER 12
23 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE AREAS WERE DETERMINED TO NOT RESULT IN
24 SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS AS A RESULT OF ANALYSIS COMPLETED IN THE
25 INITIAL STUDY. THE COUNTY CONDUCTED SURVEYS OF OVER 200



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1 GROCERY STORES IN LOS ANGELES AND DETERMINED THAT OVER 15
2 PERCENT OF CONSUMERS USE REUSABLE BAGS IN STORES THAT DO NOT
3 MAKE PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS READILY AVAILABLE. THEREFORE THE
4 E.I.R. ANALYZED A REASONABLE WORST-CASE SCENARIO WHERE 85
5 PERCENT OF CONSUMERS WHO CURRENTLY USE PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS
6 WOULD TRANSITION TO USING PAPER CARRY OUT BAGS AND 15 PERCENT
7 WOULD TRANSITION TO USING REUSABLE BAGS AS A RESULT.
8 ORDINANCE. IN ORDER TO ALLOW FOR UNCERTAINTIES OF THE EXACT
9 NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD TRANSITION TO USING REUSABLE BAGS
10 AND TO PROVIDE A CONSERVATIVE ANALYSIS, THE E.I.R. ALSO
11 ANALYZED THE SCENARIO WHERE 100 PERCENT OF CONSUMERS WHO
12 CURRENTLY USE PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS WOULD TRANSITION TO USING
13 PAPER CARRY OUT BAGS. THE CONSERVATIVE WORST CASE SCENARIOS
14 THAT WERE ANALYZED IN THE E.I.R. DETERMINED THAT THE ORDINANCE
15 WOULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE IMPACTS
16 RELATED TO AIR QUALITY, HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY OR
17 UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. IN FACT, THE REDUCTION IN
18 LITTER ATTRIBUTABLE TO PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS WOULD ALSO
19 RESULT IN BENEFICIAL IMPACTS TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. HOWEVER,
20 UNDER THE COUNTY'S CONSERVATIVE ANALYSIS, THE INDIRECT IMPACTS
21 OF THE ORDINANCE WERE DETERMINED TO HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO
22 CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO CUMULATIVE GLOBAL GREENHOUSE GAS
23 EMISSION IMPACTS DUE TO LIFE CYCLE OF PAPER CARRY OUT BAGS,
24 INCLUDING THE DECOMPOSITION OF PAPER CARRYOUT BAGS IN
25 LANDFILLS. THE E.I.R. CONSIDERED FOUR ACTION ALTERNATIVES THAT



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1 WOULD PLACE LIMITATIONS ON THE NUMBER OF PAPER CARRYOUT BAGS
2 DISTRIBUTED IN THE COUNTY AND THEREFORE REDUCE OR AVOID THE
3 POTENTIAL IMPACTS RELATED TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.
4 ALTERNATIVE 4, WHICH CONSIDERED AN ORDINANCE THAT WOULD APPLY
5 TO A WIDER RANGE OF STORES AND WOULD BAN BOTH PLASTIC AND
6 PAPER CARRY OUT BAGS WAS DETERMINED TO BE THE ENVIRONMENTALLY
7 SUPERIOR ALTERNATIVE AS IT WOULD RESULT IN THE GREATEST
8 REDUCTION IN USE OF CARRYOUT BAGS. AS A RESULT OF PUBLIC
9 COMMENTS AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS, A VARIANT OF ALTERNATIVE
10 4, ALTERNATIVE 5, WHICH TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION ASPECTS OF
11 ALTERNATIVES OF 2 AND 3 THAT WERE ANALYZED, WAS ALSO
12 CONSIDERED. ALTERNATIVE FIVE WOULD PLACE A FEE ON THE ISSUANCE
13 OF PAPER CARRY OUT BAGS WHICH WOULD REDUCE THE MAGNITUDE OF
14 IMPACTS RELATED TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. INCORPORATION OF
15 RECOMMENDED MITIGATION MEASURES WOULD MONITOR, REDUCE THE USE
16 OF AND ENCOURAGE FURTHER RECYCLING OF PAPER CARRY OUT BAGS AND
17 WOULD INDIRECTLY OFFSET GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS TO THE
18 PRACTICAL EXTENT PRACTICABLE. THE FINAL E.I.R. DEMONSTRATES
19 THAT ALTERNATIVE 5 WOULD ACHIEVE THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
20 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES RELATED TO LITTER REDUCTION AND
21 ASSOCIATED BENEFITS FOR WATER QUALITY AND BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES
22 THAT DEPEND ON FRESHWATER AND MARINE ENVIRONMENTS, WHICH ARE
23 BENEFITS THAT WOULD OVERRIDE ANY RESIDUAL ADVERSE IMPACT
24 RELATED TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.
25



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1 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** LET ME ASK PUBLIC WORKS ON THIS ISSUE. HAVE
2 YOU PREPARED AN ECONOMIC ANALYSIS TO DETERMINE THE COSTS TO
3 IMPLEMENT THE ORDINANCE ALONG WITH THE OVERSEEING COMPLIANCE
4 BY RETAILERS?

5

6 **KOBE SKY:** THE IMPACT WITH REGARDS TO COUNTY OPERATIONS FOR
7 ENFORCING THE ORDINANCE ARE EXPECTED TO BE MINIMAL. WE
8 CURRENTLY HAVE RESOURCES UNDER OUR SOLID WASTE PROGRAM WHERE
9 WE ARE CURRENTLY IMPLEMENTING THE SINGLE USE BAG REDUCTION
10 RECYCLING PROGRAM. WE EXPECT THAT THE STAFF AND PERSONNEL
11 NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THE ORDINANCE AND ENFORCE IT WOULD BE LESS
12 THAN THE CURRENT RESOURCES EXPENDED TO IMPLEMENT THE VOLUNTARY
13 PROGRAM.

14

15 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** HOW MANY OF THE 88 CITIES WITHIN LOS ANGELES
16 CURRENTLY HAVE THIS POLICY?

17

18 **KOBE SKY:** YOU MEAN A BAN ON PLASTIC BAGS? CURRENTLY I BELIEVE
19 THE CITY OF MALIBU IS THE ONLY ONE THAT HAS ADOPTED AN
20 ORDINANCE THAT HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFULLY CHALLENGED BY THE
21 INDUSTRY.

22

23 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** AND HOW WOULD THIS IMPACT THE UNINCORPORATED
24 BUSINESSES WHEN YOU HAVE 87 OTHER CITIES WHO DON'T HAVE SUCH A
25 POLICY?



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1

2 **KOBE SKY:** THAT'S AN EXCELLENT QUESTION. PART OF THE DIRECTION-
3 -

4

5 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THAT'S WHY I ASKED IT. [LAUGHTER.]

6

7 **KOBE SKY:** THERE'S DIRECTION TO OUR DEPARTMENT TO REACH OUT TO
8 ALL 88 CITIES TO ADOPT SIMILAR ORDINANCES. OBVIOUSLY YOUR
9 BOARD HAD HOPED TO HAVE ONE STATEWIDE STANDARD THAT WOULD HAVE
10 APPLIED THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED THAT
11 AS WELL. UNFORTUNATELY, THE STATE FAILED TO ACT THIS YEAR, BUT
12 WE WILL TRY TO HAVE AS MANY CITIES WITHIN THE COUNTY ADOPT
13 SIMILAR ORDINANCE TO HAVE A COHESIVE COUNTY-WIDE POLICY.

14

15 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** BECAUSE THE LARGE RETAILERS ARE ABLE TO BUY
16 IN VOLUME, HOW DO YOU COMPENSATE THE SMALL MOM AND POPS WHO
17 DON'T HAVE THAT ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE?

18

19 **KOBE SKY:** THAT IS AN ISSUE. WE KNOW THAT WITH THE REQUIREMENT
20 TO PLACE A CHARGE OF 10 CENTS FOR THE PAPER BAGS, THAT STORES
21 WILL NO LONGER NEED TO SUBSIDIZE THOSE BAGS WHICH ARE BEING
22 PROVIDED FREE TO CUSTOMERS NOW. IT WILL OFFSET THE COSTS FOR
23 THOSE STORES. WE'LL ALSO BE FOCUSING OUR PUBLIC EDUCATION
24 EFFORTS INCLUDING PROVIDING FREE REUSABLE BAGS IN AREAS WHERE
25 THE SMALLER STORES AND LOWER INCOME RESIDENTS ARE.



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1

2 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** SINCE MANY TIMES THE CONSUMERS USE THE
3 PLASTIC BAGS FOR LINERS FOR THEIR TRASH, THEY USE THEM TO
4 BRING THEIR LUNCH TO WORK, ET CETERA, WOULD THIS FORCE THEM TO
5 PURCHASE ADDITIONAL BAGS FOR THOSE USES THEY CURRENTLY USE
6 THESE FOR?

7

8 **KOBE SKY:** YES. THAT'S ONE OF THE MOST COMMON QUESTIONS WE HAD
9 IN OUR E.I.R. PROCESS, THAT SOME FOLKS DO USE THE CURRENT
10 QUOTE, UNQUOTE FREE BAGS FOR OTHER PURPOSES. THEY'LL NOW NEED
11 TO PURCHASE BAGS SPECIFICALLY FOR PET WASTE OR TRASH LINERS IF
12 THEY WERE USING THE FREE BAGS FOR THAT PURPOSE, BUT WE BELIEVE
13 THERE WILL BE FEWER BAGS THAT WILL BE USED FOR THOSE PURPOSES
14 AND THEY'LL BE MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY BECAUSE THEY'RE
15 SUITED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

16

17 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES TOLD MY STAFF THAT A
18 REQUIREMENT OF 2.25 MILLIMETERS FOR A BAG TO BE CONSIDERED
19 REUSABLE WOULD HARM DOMESTIC MANUFACTURERS AND PUT THEM OUT OF
20 BUSINESS. SO WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE THICKNESS STANDARD
21 THAT YOU'RE REQUESTING?

22

23 **KOBE SKY:** THE REQUIREMENT FOR A THICKNESS OF 2.25 MILS IS
24 SIMPLY TO BE CONSISTENT WITH CURRENT STATE LAW THAT ALSO
25 REQUIRES REUSABLE BAGS TO BE AT LEAST 2.25 MILS. THE INCLUSION



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1 OF THAT REQUIREMENT IS ACTUALLY IN RESPONSE TO COMMENTS THAT
2 WERE RECEIVED FROM INDUSTRY THAT REQUESTED THAT WE MAKE SURE
3 WE'RE CONSISTENT WITH STATE LAW.

4

5 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** IF A BAG MEETS ALL OF THE COUNTY REQUIREMENTS
6 FOR BEING REUSABLE, THEN WHY DO WE NEED A THICKNESS STANDARD
7 BEING MANDATED?

8

9 **KOBE SKY:** THE THICKNESS STANDARD IS NOT SOMETHING THAT'S A
10 PRIORITY FROM OUR STANDPOINT. WE WERE FOCUSED ON PERFORMANCE
11 STANDARDS SUCH AS THE DURABILITY OF THE BAGS AND THEIR VOLUME
12 SO THAT RESIDENTS ARE GETTING GOOD REUSABLE BAGS THAT THEY CAN
13 USE FOR MANY YEARS. THE THICKNESS STANDARD IS ONLY THERE
14 SIMPLY TO BE CONSISTENT WITH STATE LAW. THERE'S NO OTHER
15 PURPOSE FOR IT.

16

17 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** DOES THIS PROPOSAL ALSO APPLY TO FOOD TRUCKS?

18

19 **KOBE SKY:** NO. RESTAURANTS, FOOD TRUCKS AND OTHER STORES THAT
20 ARE NOT SUPERMARKETS, GROCERY STORES, PHARMACIES, DRUG STORES,
21 CONVENIENCE STORES WOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE ORDINANCE.

22

23 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** PROPOSITION 26 WAS ENACTED BUT I KNOW IT
24 DOESN'T GO INTO EFFECT UNTIL JANUARY 1ST. IF THIS WAS JANUARY



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1 2ND, WOULD WE BE ABLE TO HAVE THAT AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE SUCH A
2 TAX?

3

4 **KOBE SKY:** WELL, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THAT IS A TAX AS IS SET
5 OUT IN THE MATERIALS BEFORE YOU. THIS 10 CENT FEE WHICH GOES
6 TO REIMBURSE THE GROCERY STORES IS NOT A TAX EVEN UNDER PROP
7 26. NOW, CLEARLY, THERE IS GOING TO BE LITIGATION OVER MANY,
8 MANY ASPECTS OF PROP 26 AND THERE'S REDEFINITION IN THAT
9 INITIATIVE AND NO ONE KNOWS THE ANSWER UNTIL THE LAST COURT
10 SPEAKS, BUT IT IS OUR VIEW THAT THIS IS NOT A TAX.

11

12 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** ON THAT POINT, JUST TO DEVIATE FOR ONE
13 SECOND, MR. FUJIOKA, AS WE DID ON THE UTILITY TAX, WE HAD AN
14 EMBARGO OF THOSE FUNDS. IS THERE GOING-- HOW ARE YOU GOING TO
15 SEPARATE THOSE FUNDS WITH THE LEGAL CHALLENGES GOING ON OVER
16 THIS PERIOD OF TIME, THOSE FUNDS THAT ARE BEING COLLECTED AS
17 FEES. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT OTHER TYPES OF FEES THAT ARE BEING
18 IMPOSED.

19

20 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THIS IS NOT A FEE. IT'S NOT A FEE.

21

22 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** NO. GENERALLY ON THIS. I MEAN--

23

24 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** OKAY, BECAUSE THIS IS NOT DEFINED AS A
25 FEE.



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1

2 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** NO, I MEAN ON 26. I JUST DEVIATED.

3

4 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I THINK THE ANSWER TO THAT, MIKE, IS THAT
5 PROP 26 WILL ONLY APPLY PROSPECTIVELY TO NEW FEES. I DON'T
6 THINK IT APPLIES TO ANY FEES WE CURRENTLY CORRECT.

7

8 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** NO, NO, NO, JUST NEW FEES, BUT IF WE IMPOSE
9 SUCH A FEE THAT WAS LATER CHALLENGED, ARE WE GOING TO EMBARGO
10 THOSE FEES AS YOU DO IN THE UTILITY. THAT'S WHAT I MEANT.

11

12 **C.E.O. FUJIOKA:** I THINK THAT'S A GOOD POINT, IS SOMETHING THAT
13 BOTH MYSELF AND COUNTY COUNSEL COULD CLOSELY TRACK AND ANY
14 FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD BE BASED ON THE QUALITY, THE
15 VALIDITY OF THE LEGAL CHALLENGE SHOULD ONE BE PRESENTED.
16 THAT'S SOMETHING WE SHOULD TRACK.

17

18 **ANDREA ORDIN, COUNSEL:** RIGHT. AND IT COULD CERTAINLY BE THE
19 MORE CONSERVATIVE VIEW AS IT IS WENDING ITS WAY THROUGH THE
20 COURTS AS WE EXPECTED TO MAKE SUCH PROVISIONS.

21

22 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** GETTING BACK TO THIS ITEM, MY CONCERNS ARE
23 DIFFERENTIATING WHERE THE LARGE RETAILERS ARE GOING TO,
24 BECAUSE OF THEIR SIZE, BE ABLE TO ABSORB THESE COSTS, BUT THE
25 MOM AND POPPERS WILL HAVE A DIFFICULTY, AND THEN AGAIN, THE



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1 INDIVIDUALS WHO DO USE PLASTIC BAGS FOR THEIR PETS, ETC.,
2 ETC., WILL HAVE TO PURCHASE, ACQUIRE OTHER TYPES OF BAGS TO DO
3 THE TRASH LINING AND OTHERS, AND AT A TIME OF ECONOMIC
4 UNCERTAINTY, WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF BUSINESSES ALREADY LEAVING
5 OUR STATE AND COMMUNITY, THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE THE
6 APPROPRIATE TIME IN OUR EFFORTS TO CLEAN UP THE ENVIRONMENT,
7 TO IMPOSE THIS ADDITIONAL REGULATION ON THE BUSINESS BUT MORE
8 IMPORTANTLY THIS ADDITIONAL FEE TO THE CONSUMER, MANY WHO
9 DON'T HAVE JOBS TODAY BECAUSE WE HAVE ABOUT OVER 12 PERCENT
10 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WITHIN CALIFORNIA. THOSE ARE MY CONCERNS,
11 BUT THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [APPLAUSE.]

12

13 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. WHAT WE HAVE-- THANK YOU.
14 EXCUSE ME. HEY, EXCUSE ME. WOULD YOU PLEASE STOP CLAPPING,
15 SIR? SIR? WE HAVE A RULE HERE THAT YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO
16 APPLAUD. OKAY? NOW, IF YOU FEEL THAT YOU MUST, WE'RE GOING TO
17 ASK YOU TO DO THIS QUIETLY. THAT WAY WE CAN SEE IT AND YOU
18 DON'T DISRUPT THE SPEAKERS. OKAY? THAT'S FAIR TO EVERYBODY AND
19 THAT WAY WE DON'T HAVE TO INTERRUPT THE SPEAKERS AS THEY
20 SPEAK. THANK YOU. I WANT TO THANK THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
21 WORKS FOR THEIR PRESENTATION AND MORE IMPORTANTLY FOR THEIR
22 WORK, IT'S BEEN LONG AND COMING, THEY'VE BEEN MEETING
23 REGULARLY, I UNDERSTAND, HAVING LONG MEETINGS. THEY'VE MET
24 WITH THE INDUSTRY. THEY'VE TRIED TO INCORPORATE AS MANY-- AS
25 MUCH INPUT AS POSSIBLE. AGAIN, THE PREFERENCE FOR ALL OF US



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1 WOULD HAVE BEEN THAT THE STATE WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PASS
2 THIS LEGISLATION. THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN BY FAR THE BEST. WE
3 HAVE TRIED IN INCREMENTAL STEPS TO TRY AND MAKE CHANGES IN THE
4 WAY-- OUR OWN HABITS. AND RIGHT NOW, AS YOU SAW THE
5 PRESENTATION EARLIER, MANY OF THE CHILDREN ARE INVOLVED IN
6 EDUCATING THEIR OWN FAMILIES AND THEIR OWN NEIGHBORHOODS ABOUT
7 HOW DESTRUCTIVE PLASTIC BAGS CAN BE. MANY OF US SEE THEM
8 FLYING AROUND ON THE FREEWAY OR OTHER KINDS OF PLACES,
9 ATTACHED TO TREES AND ALL KINDS OF OTHER THINGS. THAT IS THE
10 KIND OF DESTRUCTION THAT WE CAN PHYSICALLY SEE. THERE IS SO
11 MUCH DESTRUCTION THAT GOES ON EVERY SINGLE DAY WITH PLASTIC
12 BAGS THAT WE CANNOT SEE, IN OUR OCEANS OR OTHER AREAS. SO WE
13 HAVE-- WE ARE GOING TO TAKE, HOPEFULLY, A LEADERSHIP ROLE
14 TODAY IN ENACTING THIS LEGISLATION, AND THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT
15 IT IS GOING TO REQUIRE SOME CHANGES FROM THE STATUS QUO. MANY
16 OF THE EFFORTS THAT WE MADE IN THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY AND THE
17 EAST SIDE TO ENCOURAGE THE LARGE GROCERY STORES TO JOIN WITH
18 US IN SPONSORING OUR REUSABLE BAG PROGRAM, WERE NOT
19 INTERESTED. THEY SAID IT WOULD TAKE THEM TOO LONG TO PROVIDE A
20 STICKER TO THOSE CHILDREN WHO WERE BRINGING IN THE REUSABLE
21 BAGS. I REMIND THEM THAT I REALLY-- I THINK IT'S SHAMEFUL THAT
22 THEY COULDN'T PARTICIPATE. THEN THERE ARE OTHER PLACES, LIKE
23 FRESH AND EASY, WHO, IF YOU GO IN, THEY GIVE YOU A COUPON
24 EVERY SO OFTEN AND YOU GET A FREE REUSABLE BAG BY SHOPPING
25 WITH THEM. SO THERE ARE A LOT OF INNOVATIVE WAYS TO GET THIS



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1 DONE AND EFFECTIVELY, BUT BY FAR THE MOST SUCCESSFUL WAY WOULD
2 HAVE BEEN FOR THE STATE LEGISLATURE, NOT ONLY TO HAVE THIS
3 LEGISLATION PASSED AND SIGNED INTO LAW, BUT UNFORTUNATELY THAT
4 HAS NOT HAPPENED, BUT I DON'T THINK THAT THEY'RE GOING TO GIVE
5 UP, AND I'M GOING TO INVITE THE AUTHOR OF THAT LEGISLATION,
6 ASSEMBLYWOMAN JULIA BROWNLEY TO COME JOIN US, IF SHE WOULD.
7 ASSEMBLYWOMAN, IF YOU'D MAKE YOUR COMMENTS, PLEASE, WE'D
8 APPRECIATE IT.

9

10 **JULIA BROWNLEY:** THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR AND SUPERVISORS, GOOD
11 MORNING. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH YOU. IT'S
12 MY PRIVILEGE TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS MORNING TO STAND WITH
13 YOU AND THE RESIDENTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY WHO BELIEVE THAT
14 BANNING SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS IS THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENTAL AND
15 ECONOMIC CHOICE FOR CALIFORNIA. AS THE AUTHOR OF A.B.1998, I
16 TRIED TO ACCOMPLISH STATEWIDE WHAT HOPEFULLY YOU WILL
17 ACCOMPLISH HERE TODAY IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. I KNOW FULL WELL
18 THAT THE ORDINANCE BEFORE YOU REPLICATES A.B.1998 AND THE HARD
19 WORK OF AN UNPRECEDENTED COALITION OF SUPPORTERS, INCLUDING
20 THE CALIFORNIA GROCERS, THE RETAILERS, LABOR, THE
21 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY AND, OF COURSE, YOUR SUPPORT AND
22 HUNDREDS OF OTHER CITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT
23 CALIFORNIA. I WANT TO THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR, FOR YOUR
24 LEADERSHIP IN BRINGING THIS ORDINANCE FORWARD. YOUR DECISION
25 TODAY WILL BE AN HISTORIC ONE, NOT ONLY FOR L.A. COUNTY BUT



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1 INDEED FOR THE ENTIRE STATE. I ALSO WANT TO THANK YOU AS WELL
2 FOR STANDING UP TO WHAT I KNOW HAS BEEN A VERY INTENSE
3 HAMMERING FROM THE SAME CHEMICAL COMPANY LOBBYIST WHO PACKED
4 THE CAPITOL HALLS JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO TO DEFEAT 1998 AND
5 SPENT AN UNPRECEDENTED \$2 MILLION FOR LOBBYING ACTIVITIES IN
6 THE LAST MONTHS OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION. IN JULY,
7 SACRAMENTO WAS THE BATTLEGROUND. TODAY THE BATTLEGROUND IS
8 RIGHT HERE IN L.A. COUNTY. IT HAS BEEN A DAVID AND GOLIATH
9 FIGHT BUT THE DAYS OF THROW-AWAY PLASTIC BAGS ARE NUMBERED.
10 AND THE INDUSTRY ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE BAN I BELIEVE ARE
11 TIRED. THEY WILL CLAIM THAT IT'S A JOB-KILLER, BUT WE KNOW
12 THAT THIS WILL CREATE GREEN JOBS. THEY WILL CLAIM IT WILL COST
13 CONSUMERS IN L.A. COUNTY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN AN ALREADY-BAD
14 ECONOMY, BUT WE KNOW THE PURPOSE OF THIS ORDINANCE IS TO USE
15 REUSABLE BAGS AT NO COST. THEY WILL REFERENCE A STUDY THAT
16 CONCLUDES REUSABLE BAGS MAY CARRY BACTERIA AND COULD CAUSE E.
17 COLI AND SALMONELLA, BUT THE ORDINANCE REQUIRES THAT REUSABLE
18 BAGS ARE WASHABLE. THEY WILL SAY THAT PLASTIC BAGS ARE
19 DURABLE. WELL, IN THIS CASE, THAT MAY HAVE SOME TRUTH. YOU USE
20 A PLASTIC BAG ONCE TO TRANSPORT YOUR GROCERIES AND IT MAY TAKE
21 UP TO 500 YEARS OR LONGER FOR THE BAGS TO DECOMPOSE. THEY SAY
22 THAT WE SHOULD RECYCLE, BUT WE KNOW THAT ONLY 5 PERCENT OF ALL
23 PLASTIC BAGS ARE RECYCLED IN CALIFORNIA. THEY WILL CLAIM A
24 CHARGE FOR A 40 PERCENT POST-CONSUMER RECYCLABLE BAG IS A FEE,
25 BUT HOW COULD THAT BE IF THE COUNTY DOES NOT RECEIVE A DIME



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1 AND ITS CUSTOMERS HAVE A CHOICE TO EVEN ASK FOR THAT PAPER
2 BAG? AND NOW WITH THE PASSAGE OF PROP 26, THEY WANT YOU TO
3 DELAY YOUR VOTE. PROP 26 WILL HAVE TO BE CLARIFIED WITHOUT A
4 DOUBT, BUT THIS ORDINANCE CAN BE ADJUSTED OR CHANGED IF THE
5 NEED TO DO SO IS CLEAR. THERE IS NO REASON TO DELAY YOUR
6 ACTION TODAY. CALIFORNIANS WANT A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT AND THE
7 SOLUTION IS SO SIMPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT IS
8 ENORMOUS. IF CHINA, INDIA, IRELAND AND EVEN BANGLADESH CAN BAN
9 PLASTIC BAGS, CERTAINLY WE CAN DO SO HERE IN L.A. COUNTY.
10 THANK YOU FOR HAVING THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND
11 ATTENTION.

12

13 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, ASSEMBLYWOMAN, AND THANK YOU
14 FOR INTRODUCING THIS IN THE STATE AND GOOD LUCK IN THE COMING
15 YEAR.

16

17 **JULIA BROWNLEY:** THANK YOU.

18

19 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WE'D LIKE TO SEE IT HAPPEN STATEWIDE.
20 CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT. WE HAVE A LITTLE
21 OVER 62 SPEAKERS, AND I'M GOING TO BEGIN WITH THE PROPONENTS,
22 BUT I'M GOING TO CALL UP 15 OF THEM AND THEN WE'RE GOING TO GO
23 TO THE OPPOSITION AND CALL 15 OF THEM, AND WE'RE GOING TO
24 LIMIT ALL OF OUR SPEAKERS TO ONE MINUTE. WE HAVE AN ADDITIONAL
25 ELECTED OFFICIAL WHO HAS JOINED US TODAY AND I'D LIKE TO CALL



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1 VICE MAYOR SUJA LOWENTHAL FROM THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, IF
2 SHE'D JOIN US, AND I'M GOING TO HAVE HER BE JOINED BY TOM
3 MODICA, SANDRINE CASSIDY SCHMITT AND SUE VANG, IF THEY WOULD
4 JOIN US. AND VICE MAYOR LOWENTHAL, IF YOU'D BEGIN.

5

6 **VICE MAYOR SUJA LOWENTHAL:** THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR MOLINA AND
7 HONORABLE SUPERVISORS. I'M VICE MAYOR SUJA LOWENTHAL FROM THE
8 CITY OF LONG BEACH. I URGE YOU TO SUPPORT THIS E.I.R. ALONG
9 WITH FINDINGS AND STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE BANNING
10 OF PLASTIC BAGS. AS AN ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE WHOSE DISTRICT
11 INCLUDES THE MOUTH OF THE LOS ANGELES RIVER AND ADJACENT
12 BEACHES, I SEE FIRSTHAND THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF PLASTIC BAGS
13 ON OUR ENVIRONMENT. WHAT STARTS OUT AS PLASTIC LITTER ON THE
14 STREET 40 MILES AWAY FROM LONG BEACH BECOMES MARINE DEBRIS ON
15 OUR BEACHES. PLASTIC BAGS ARE A COMMON SIGHT, HALF BURIED ON
16 OUR SHORES, FLOATING IN WATER OFF OUR BEACHES AND CATCHING ON
17 OUR MARINA DOCKS AND BOATS. THEY'RE ALSO A COMMON SIGHT IN OUR
18 COMMUNITIES, FLOATING IN THE AIR AND CATCHING ON OUR FENCES
19 AND STORM DRAINS. EITHER WAY, IT'S VISUAL BLIGHT, BUT MOST
20 IMPORTANTLY, IT'S DESTRUCTIVE TO OUR INFRASTRUCTURE. THE CITY
21 OF LONG BEACH SPENDS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS EVERY YEAR AND
22 COUNTLESS STAFF AND VOLUNTEER HOURS CLEANING UP MARINE DEBRIS
23 THAT INCLUDES A GREAT DEAL OF PLASTIC BAGS, FUNDING AND HARD
24 WORK THAT COULD BE PUT TO BETTER USE IN OUR COMMUNITY. THE
25 OPPORTUNITY COSTS ARE HUGE. WE TOO ARE CUTTING BACK ON PUBLIC



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1 SAFETY AND LIBRARIANS AND PARKS, NOT TO MENTION THE LOST
2 REVENUE ASSOCIATED WITH PEOPLE'S PERCEPTION OF THE CITY'S
3 BEACHES AND SHORELINE WHICH AFFECTS OUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
4 RECREATION AND TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES. BEACH CLOSURES DUE TO
5 STORM EVENTS, TRASH AND BACTERIA LIMIT THE COMMUNITY'S ABILITY
6 TO ENJOY ONE OF OUR COMMUNITY'S MOST VALUED ASSETS, OUR
7 SHORELINE.

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** DO YOU WANT TO SUMMARIZE YOUR REMARKS?

10

11 **VICE MAYOR SUJA LOWENTHAL:** ABSOLUTELY. THERE ARE COSTS TO
12 CONSUMERS, CERTAINLY. I DO WANT TO JUST ADDRESS ONE THING,
13 WHICH IS I'M CONCERNED WITH THE PREMISE AND ITS CONCLUSIONS
14 THAT SOMEHOW LOW INCOME RESIDENTS DO NOT VALUE A CLEAN,
15 HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR THEIR FAMILIES; THAT THEY'RE UNWILLING
16 TO MAKE CHANGES TO THEIR DAILY ROUTINE IN THE BEST INTERESTS
17 OF THEIR HOUSEHOLD BUDGET, AND THEIR COMMUNITY AND THEIR
18 FAMILY. WE SHOULD ALL TAKE UMBRAGE AT THE SUGGESTION THAT
19 ECONOMICALLY CHALLENGED COMMUNITIES CANNOT FIGURE OUT HOW TO
20 PICK UP ANIMAL WASTE OR SACK THEIR LUNCHES WITHOUT SINGLE USE
21 BAGS. WE'VE ALWAYS FIGURED IT OUT, AND LIKE ASSEMBLY MEMBER
22 BROWNLEY SAID, WHEN EMERGING NATIONS HAVE FIGURED OUT HOW TO
23 BAN THESE OUT OF THEIR SYSTEM, SO CAN WE ALSO. I LOOK TO THIS
24 COUNTY FOR ITS LEADERSHIP. MY OWN CITY IS LOOKING TO DO A BAN
25 BUT WE DO NEED THE COUNTY TO DO THIS SO THAT WE CAN FOLLOW



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1 YOUR LEAD AND AS THE COUNTY GOES, I BELIEVE THE STATE OF
2 CALIFORNIA WILL GO AS WELL, SO THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT. MR. MODICA.

5

6 **TOM MODICA:** THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. MY
7 NAME IS TOM MODICA. I'M THE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND
8 STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR THE CITY OF LONG BEACH. TO EXPOUND
9 ON WHAT VICE MAYOR LOWENTHAL MENTIONED, UPSTREAM POLLUTION,
10 LIKE THAT WHICH COMES FROM SINGLE USE BAGS, SIGNIFICANTLY
11 AFFECTS LONG BEACH WHICH SITS AT THE MOUTH OF THE L.A. RIVER.
12 IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 95 PERCENT OF THE DEBRIS THAT ENDS UP IN
13 OUR BAY AND OUR BEACH COMES FROM THE L.A. RIVER WHICH AMOUNTS
14 TO 6,000 TONS OF TRASH A YEAR. THIS CLEAN-UP COSTS LONG BEACH
15 2.2 MILLION DOLLARS EACH AND EVERY YEAR. WE'VE HAD A HISTORIC
16 LEADERSHIP IN LONG BEACH IMPLEMENTING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS.
17 JUST A FEW OF OUR SUCCESSES AS WE HAVE INSTALLED TRASH NETS ON
18 THE L.A. RIVER, CAPTURING 810,000 POUNDS OF TRASH, WE'VE
19 INSTALLED VORTEX SEPARATION SYSTEMS, WE'VE INSTALLED DEBRIS
20 DIVERTERS AND ALL OF THESE COME WITH A COST OF APPROXIMATELY
21 \$20 MILLION JUST TO INSTALL. WE'VE BEEN AN AVID SUPPORTER OF
22 THE COUNTY'S "BRAG ABOUT YOUR BAG" CAMPAIGN AND BELIEVE THAT
23 WE ARE INCREDIBLY SUPPORTIVE OF REDUCING POLLUTION THROUGH
24 BEHAVIOR CHANGES AND FOCUSING ON THE USE OF REUSABLE BAGS IN



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1 LONG BEACH AND THROUGHOUT THE COUNTIRD, SO THANK YOU FOR YOUR
2 TIME.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. COULD WE ALSO ASK TIM MARTINEZ
5 AND JENNIE ROMER TO PLEASE JOIN US. AND AGAIN, I'M GOING TO
6 TRY TO GET EVERYBODY TO STAY WITHIN A MINUTE, SO MAKE YOUR
7 POINT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE SO THAT WE GET THEM IN. WE HAVE A
8 LOT OF SPEAKERS. MISS CASSIDY SCHMITT.

9

10 **SANDRINE CASSIDY SCHMITT:** YES, THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY.
11 MY NAME IS SANDRINE CASSIDY SCHMITT. I'M A WOMAN-OWNED SMALL
12 BUSINESS IN CULVER CITY. MY COMPANY'S NAME IS JUNE 15. I HAVE
13 A LINE OF STYLISH REUSABLE BAGS TO HELP REPLACE PAPER AND
14 PLASTIC. I AM A BOARD MEMBER OF BALLONA CREEK RENAISSANCE. I
15 LIVE ON THE CREEK AND IF ANYONE DOUBTS THAT PLASTIC IS BAD,
16 PLEASE COME SEE ME, I WILL MAKE YOU VISIT THE CREEK AND YOU
17 WILL KNOW FIRSTHAND WHY WE ARE TRYING TO BAN PLASTIC. I
18 STARTED MY OWN BUSINESS OUT OF SHEER HORROR OF ALL THE TRASH
19 AND PLASTIC BAGS FLOATING DOWN THE CREEK INTO THE OCEAN. I'M
20 HERE TO HONOR AND SUPPORT YOUR INITIATIVE TO BAN PLASTIC USE
21 BAGS AND TO SIMPLY REVIVE AN AGE-OLD CUSTOM. THIS IS NOTHING
22 NEW. WE KNOW HOW TO USE REUSABLE BAGS, WE'VE DONE IT IN THE
23 PAST AND WE CAN DO IT AGAIN. LET'S REDUCE THE TRASH IN THE
24 DRYERS AROUND THE WORLD TODAY. THIS MOVEMENT WILL BE GREATER
25 AND STRONGER IF LEGISLATION PASSES TODAY TO SUPPORT IT. AND I



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1 AM A GOOD EXAMPLE OF A GREEN BUSINESS. I STARTED THE LINE
2 MYSELF. AND IF ANY ONE OF YOU CAN TEST THE BAN BECAUSE
3 REUSABLE BAGS ARE TOO EXPENSIVE, I AM HAPPILY GOING TO GIVE
4 YOU A FREE DURABLE BAG IF YOU COME SEE ME JUNE15COLLECTION.COM
5 AND IF WE CAN BAN SMOKING LATELY, WE CAN BAN PLASTIC BAGS.
6 IT'S GOOD-- IT'S FOR THE GREATER GOOD.

7

8 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU SO MUCH. ALL RIGHT. IF WE COULD--
9 - MR. MARTINEZ IS NOT HERE. IF WE COULD HAVE-- OH, OKAY.
10 PLEASE JOIN US. AND ALSO AMY LAY, IF SHE COULD JOIN US. MISS
11 VANG.

12

13 **SUE VANG:** THANK YOU MADAME CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. MY
14 NAME IS SUE VANG WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP, CALIFORNIANS
15 AGAINST WASTE. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THE COUNTY'S EFFORTS TO
16 REDUCE SINGLE USE CARRY OUT BAGS. PLASTIC BAGS ARE COSTLY
17 ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGING AND AN EASILY PREVENTABLE SOURCE OF
18 LITTER AND POLLUTION. ACCORDING TO AN OCEAN CONSERVANCY REPORT
19 RELEASED EARLIER THIS YEAR, PLASTIC BAGS WERE THE SECOND MOST
20 COMMONLY FOUND ITEMS DURING MARINE DEBRIS CLEAN-UPS. TOGETHER,
21 L.A. COUNTY AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS STATEWIDE SPEND MORE
22 THAN \$25 MILLION EACH YEAR TO CLEAN UP PLASTIC BAGS. WE HAVE
23 ANALYZED THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS
24 AND THEIR ALTERNATIVES. THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY'S OWN LIFE-CYCLE
25 ANALYSIS CONCLUDES THAT GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS ASSOCIATED



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1 WITH PLASTIC BAG PRODUCTION EXCEEDS THAT OF RECYCLED PAPER BAG
2 PRODUCTION. WE CONCUR WITH THE FINDINGS IN THE COUNTY'S E.I.R.
3 THAT THERE WILL BE NO SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS
4 ASSOCIATED WITH THIS ORDINANCE. PLASTIC MARINE POLLUTION IS A
5 GLOBAL PROBLEM WITH LOCAL SOLUTIONS. THE LITTERING COSTS
6 ASSOCIATED WITH SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS MAKE THIS A SERIOUS
7 ISSUE AND YOUR ATTENTION AND LEADERSHIP IS GREATLY
8 APPRECIATED. WE URGE YOU TO VOTE TODAY TO PHASE OUT THE
9 DISTRIBUTION OF USE OF SINGLE USE BAGS.

10

11 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MISS VANG. MISS ROMER.

12

13 **JENNIE ROMER:** GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS JENNIE ROMER AND I'M
14 WITH PLASTICBAGLAWS DOT ORG. I'M AN ATTORNEY WORKING PRO BONO
15 TO ENCOURAGE CITIES TO ADOPT PLASTIC BAG BANS. WE HAVE A
16 WEBSITE, PLASTIC- BAG LAWS DOT ORG, WHERE I COMPILE ALL OF THE
17 INFORMATION ABOUT THE BANS. I'D LIKE TO ADDRESS A COUPLE OF
18 THINGS THAT I BELIEVE MR. JOSEPH WILL COVER. FIRST, THERE WAS
19 A RECENT STUDY REGARDING LIGHT AND REUSABLE BAGS THAT FOCUSED
20 ON BAGS THAT WERE-- CONTAINED 100 PARTS PER MILLION LEAD.
21 UNDER CALIFORNIA PROP 65, THERE WAS A RECENT CASE, CENTER FOR
22 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH VERSUS LULU AND WHERE BAGS HAD 200,000
23 PARTS PER MILLION, SO 100 TO 500 REALLY ISN'T VERY LARGE UNDER
24 CALIFORNIA LAW, DEPENDING ON THE TYPE OF FABRIC, CAN BE



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1 BETWEEN 90 AND 600 PARTS PER MILLION. SO I'D JUST LIKE TO
2 ADDRESS THAT. THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. COULD WE ALSO HAVE NATALIE
5 SPOLYAR AS WELL AS STEPHANIE BARGER JOIN US? MR. MARTINEZ.

6

7 **TIM MARTINEZ:** THANK YOU. I WAS HERE TO SUPPORT-- ASK FOR
8 SUPPORT FOR A PLASTIC BAG BAN. I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT I LIVE
9 NEAR THE ARROYO SECO AND I'M ALWAYS PICKING UP TRASH, AND MOST
10 OF THAT TRASH IS PLASTIC, AND IT BREAKS MY HEART TO SEE IT
11 BECAUSE THE MORE I LEARN ABOUT IT, I WORRY ABOUT THE
12 IMPLICATIONS OF THE MILLIONS OF TONS OF PLASTIC POLLUTION THAT
13 WE NOW HAVE IN OUR OCEANS AND THAT IT'S ENTERING THE FOOD
14 CHAIN IN ALL LEVELS, THAT IT BREAKS DOWN INTO JUST EVER
15 SMALLER PARTS AND BIO-ACCUMULATES INTO ALL OF OUR SEAFOOD, ALL
16 OF OUR LIFE IN THE SEA. AND I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT IN THIS
17 AGE OF PLASTIC OCEANS, I THINK TOO MANY PEOPLE LACK THE
18 CONSCIENCE TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF SINGLE USE PETROCHEMICAL
19 WASTE AND I THINK THE ETHICAL RESPONSE IS TO PROMOTE A SYSTEM
20 OF GREEN DESIGN AND OF ZERO WASTE AND I THINK A PLASTIC BAG
21 BAN IS A GREAT WAY TO START. SO I'M JUST HERE TO URGE YOU TO
22 PLEASE SUPPORT THE BAN AGAINST SINGLE USE BAGS AND FOR US TO
23 ALL BECOME A PART OF THE SOLUTION. THANK YOU.

24

25 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MISS LAY.



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1

AMY LAY: HI, MY NAME'S AMY BLUNT LAY. I'M AN ARTIST AND
ACTIVIST. I'M NOT THE LORAX, BUT I SPEAK FOR THE VOICELESS,
THE CREATURES IN WAVES AND OUR CHILDREN MOST JOYOUS. NOW
THANKS TO OUR EXCESSIVE DEPENDENCE ON PLASTIC, OUR PLANET IS
ON THE VERGE OF SOMETHING MOST TRAGIC. YOU SEE SOMETHING QUITE
AWFUL HAS HAPPENED. IF YOU SAW IT FIRSTHAND, YOU WOULD BE
SADDENED. OUR STREETS, RIVERS AND BEACHES HAVE BECOME POLLUTED
WITH BAGS, CAUSING A TIDE OUT IN THE WATER THAT WILL ALL MAKE
US GAG. I WONDER LIKE MANY OF US HERE WHAT OUR OCEAN WILL BE
LIKE IN A YEAR. WILL THE PRIDE OF CALIFORNIA GET TRASHED IN
VEHEMENCE, JUST BECAUSE OUR PEOPLE ARE SO DEPENDENT ON
CONVENIENCE? AS I SAID BEFORE, I'M NOT THE LORAX, BUT I'M A
SURFER AND MOTHER AND I KNOW ABSOLUTELY THE BAN WILL WORK LIKE
NO OTHER. FOR THOSE OF US WHO WITNESSED THIS MESS FIRSTHAND
WHEN WE PLAY, WE BEG OF YOU TO VOTE THE BAN INTO LAW TODAY.

17

SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR: ALL RIGHT. AGAIN, MISS BARGER? IS THAT
CORRECT?

20

STEPHANIE BARGER: YES.

22

SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR: BEFORE YOU AGAIN, LET ME JUST CALL UP A
COUPLE. AKIKO JONES, VICKI WAWERCHAK, AND ANGELA HOWE.

25



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1 **STEPHANIE BARGER:** STEPHANIE BARGER WITH EARTH RESOURCE
2 FOUNDATION. WE REPRESENT HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE NOT
3 ONLY IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA BUT ACROSS OUR NATION, AND
4 WHAT WE'RE REALLY ASKING TODAY, OF COURSE, IS FOR YOUR STRONG
5 SUPPORT OF THE SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAN BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY
6 YOUR LEADERSHIP NOT ONLY FOR THE COUNTY AND THE CITIES HERE
7 BUT ALSO THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE STATE. AND I WANT TO APPLAUD YOU
8 FOR ALL THE TIME AND EFFORT YOU'VE DEVOTED TO THE REDUCTION
9 AND EDUCATION AND FOR YOUR AMAZING STAFF THAT HAS THOROUGHLY
10 AND PRESENTED A VERY COMPREHENSIVE STUDY. SO JUST A COUPLE OF
11 THINGS, MANY OF THE CITIES ARE LOOKING TO YOUR LEADERSHIP,
12 GLENDALE AND BURBANK. GLENDALE IS ADOPTING THEIR ZERO WASTE
13 PLAN AND PART OF THAT IS TO IMPLEMENT A PLASTIC BAG BAN. WE'VE
14 ALREADY HEARD FROM OTHER CITIES. THERE'S MANY CITIES IN ORANGE
15 COUNTY AND SAN DIEGO THAT ARE ALSO LOOKING TO YOUR LEADERSHIP.
16 MORE IMPORTANTLY, PAPER BAGS, 50 TO 60 PERCENT OF ALL PAPER IS
17 RECYCLED VERSUS 5 PERCENT, SO THANK YOU AGAIN AND WE
18 APPRECIATE YOUR LEADERSHIP.

19
20 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MISS SPOLYAR IS NOT HERE. MISS
21 JONES. NOT HERE? ALL RIGHT. MISS WAWERCHAK. I APOLOGIZE.

22
23 **VICKI WAWERCHAK:** THAT'S OKAY. HI, MY NAME IS VICKI WAWERCHAK
24 AND I AM THE DIRECTOR OF THE SANTA MONICA PIER AQUARIUM AND I
25 AM HERE IN STRONG SUPPORT OF BANNING PLASTIC BAGS. I AM A



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1 MARINE BIOLOGIST WHO SPENDS A LOT OF TIME IN THE OCEAN, AND
2 UNFORTUNATELY HAVE EXPERIENCED FIRSTHAND THE IMPACT PLASTIC
3 BAGS HAVE ON MARINE ANIMALS. I'VE SEEN SEA TURTLES CHOKING ON
4 PLASTIC BAGS AND I HAVE RESCUED BIRDS WHO HAVE BEEN STRUGGLING
5 TO TRY TO GET OUT OF THE WASTE. I FEEL SO STRONGLY ABOUT THIS
6 ISSUE THAT AT THE AQUARIUM WE ACTUALLY DESIGNED AN EXHIBIT
7 THAT HAS A SEA JELLY, A MOON JELLY, WHICH IS A TYPE OF
8 JELLYFISH, RIGHT NEXT TO A BAG-- OR A TANK WITH FLOATING
9 PLASTIC BAGS. THIS ACTUALLY ALLOWS US TO TEACH EVERYBODY HOW
10 THE PLASTIC BAGS LOOK JUST LIKE SEA JELLIES AND IMPACT THE
11 OCEAN ENVIRONMENT. IT ALLOWS US TO EDUCATE 85,000 PEOPLE
12 ANNUALLY ABOUT THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE BUT THE PEOPLE THAT I SEE
13 MOST IMPACTED BY THIS EXHIBIT ARE THE STUDENTS THAT COME FOR
14 FIELD TRIPS. THEY LEAVE THE AQUARIUM PROMISING NOT TO USE
15 PLASTIC BAGS, TO PICK UP LITTER AND MOST IMPORTANTLY TO TELL
16 THEIR SIBLINGS AND PARENTS TO DO THE SAME. I HOPE TODAY YOU
17 CAN FOLLOW THEIR LEAD BY ADOPTING THIS ORDINANCE AND BY
18 BANNING PLASTIC BAGS.

19
20 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. NEXT WE HAVE REFUGIO MATA,
21 VANNESSA MOLANO AND LAURIE GOULD. MISS HOWE.

22
23 **ANGELA HOWE:** THANK YOU, HONORABLE CHAIR AND SUPERVISORS. MY
24 NAME IS ANGELA HOW. I'M THE MANAGING ATTORNEY FOR SURFRIDER
25 FOUNDATION AND I'M HERE TODAY REPRESENTING NOT ONLY OUR THREE



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1 L.A. CHAPTERS BUT ALSO THE 55,000 MEMBERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
2 WHO CARE ABOUT OUR OCEANS, WAVES AND BEACHES AND PROTECTING
3 AND ENJOYING THOSE BEACHES. I'M HERE TO URGE YOU TO PASS THE
4 SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAG BAN AS A MEANS OF PREVENTION AND
5 CONTROL OF PLASTIC LITTER. PLASTIC BAGS ARE ESPECIALLY
6 DESTRUCTIVE OF OUR COASTAL ENVIRONMENT BECAUSE THEY EASILY
7 ENTER THE LITTER STREAM TO OUR OCEANS AND KILL MARINE LIFE,
8 NOT TO MENTION DISRUPT THE BEAUTIFUL HABITAT OF OUR CALIFORNIA
9 BEACHES. IN THE LAST YEAR, OUR PEER TO PEER GRASSROOTS
10 EDUCATION EFFORTS UNDER "RISE ABOVE PLASTICS" PROGRAM, HAVE
11 PRESENTED TO OVER 20,000 PEOPLE INCLUDING HIGH SCHOOLS AND
12 COLLEGES AROUND THE L.A. COUNTY AREA ABOUT THE HARMS AND
13 DESTRUCTIONS OF PLASTIC BAGS ON OUR MARINE ENVIRONMENT. TODAY,
14 THE COUNTY HAS A CHOICE TO MAKE GOOD ON THE 2008 COMMITMENT TO
15 PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT WITH THE SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAG BAN.
16 YOU HAVE THE CHANCE TO LEAD. NOW'S THE TIME FOR LOS ANGELES TO
17 STEP AHEAD AND BE THE LEADER OF THE STATE AND THE NATION WITH
18 THIS ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY-- SUSTAINABLE ORDINANCE. FOR
19 THESE REASONS, SURFRIDER URGES YOU TO VOTE FOR THE SINGLE USE
20 PLASTIC BAG BAN. THANK YOU.

21

22 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MR. MATA.

23

24 **REFUGIO MATA:** YES. HI. GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS
25 REFUGIO MATA AND I'M A COMMUNITY ORGANIZER BY TRADE. I DO THE



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1 BULK OF MY ORGANIZING WORK IN SOUTH LOS ANGELES, I WORK WITH
2 MANY COMMUNITY LEADERS, MANY SCHOOLS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS AND I
3 JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT I'M HERE IN SUPPORT OF THE BAN ON
4 PLASTIC BAGS. A LOT OF THE TIMES, WITH THESE COMMUNITIES THAT
5 ARE MOST IMPACTED BY THIS URBAN BLIGHT AND BY SEEING ALL THE
6 PLASTIC POLLUTION, NOT ONLY IN THE STREETS BUT IN THE ALLEYS,
7 AND IF ANYBODY IS DOUBTING THAT THAT IS NOT A BIG PROBLEM IN
8 THIS COMMUNITY, I INVITE YOU TO COME TO A COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP
9 WITH ME, THE COMMUNITY CLEAN-UPS THAT WE ORGANIZED IN THE
10 COMMUNITIES. ALTHOUGH THEY HELP THE PROBLEM, IT'S GOT TO HAVE
11 EVERYBODY WORKING TOGETHER, NOT ONLY JUST TO BUSINESSES BY
12 THEMSELVES OR JUST DOING COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP BUT IS GOING TO
13 HAVE SOME GOVERNMENT ACTION AND IS GOING TO TAKE ALL OF US
14 TOGETHER, SO PLEASE, I URGE YOU TO VOTE TO BAN PLASTIC BAGS
15 TODAY. THANK YOU.

16
17 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MISS MALANO.

18
19 **VANESSA MOLANO:** HI, I'M VANESSA MOLANO, A LOW INCOME RESIDENT
20 FROM TUJUNGA AND THIS IS ADDRESSING MIKE ANTONOVICH'S
21 CONCERNS. AND I'M A PHILOSOPHY AND ECONOMICS DOUBLE MAJOR,
22 RECENT GRADUATE, AND ABOUT THE TRASH LINER AND THE WASTE
23 ARGUMENT, THE INDUSTRY AND THE A.C.C. WANTS TO COME UP WITH
24 ANY ARGUMENT TO PREVENT YOU FROM VOTING AND I AM THE LOW
25 INCOME RESIDENT THAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, AND I CAME HERE TO



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1 SEE OUR ENVIRONMENT BE SAVED, NOT TO SEE MY TRASH LINERS BE
2 SAVED. PEOPLE ARE COMING HERE TO REPRESENT THE ENVIRONMENT AND
3 NOT TO REPRESENT MINOR CONVENIENCES, AND I REALLY WONDER WHY
4 YOU CARE SO MUCH IF IT HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE PLASTICS
5 INDUSTRY AT ALL. SO I WONDER WHO IS CLAPPING FOR THE
6 QUESTIONS. WERE THE PEOPLE WHO WERE HAPPY BECAUSE THEY GET
7 THEIR WASTE LINERS SAVED OR WERE THEY HAPPY BECAUSE THEY
8 PRESERVE THEIR PROFITS FROM THE PLASTICS THAT THEY MAKE
9 POLLUTING OUR STREAMS? THAT'S ALL. THANK YOU.

10

11 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MISS GOULD.

12

13 **LAURIE GOULD:** HI. MY NAME IS LAURIE GOULD. I'M A HOME MAKER,
14 MOTHER, ARTIST. THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME SPEAK. I WANTED TO
15 SAY THAT CHANGE IS NOT EASY, BUT IT DOES COME. HOW MANY TIMES
16 I HAD TO RUN BACK TO MY CAR AND HAUL MY BAGS INTO THE GROCERY
17 STORE, HOW MANY TIMES I ENDED UP BUYING FIVE-DOLLAR-- DOLLARS
18 WORTH OF BAGS, BUT EVENTUALLY YOU LEARN, AND WHEN YOU LEARN,
19 YOU KNOW YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING GOOD, AND THAT'S IMPORTANT.

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MISS GOULD. THAT CONCLUDES 15
22 SPEAKERS ON THE FAVORED SIDE AND THEN WE'LL COME BACK TO YOU,
23 AND SO NOW WE HAVE 15 SPEAKERS WHO ARE OPPOSED. WE BEGIN WITH
24 SHERRI MCCARTHY, FOLLOWED BY ADRIAN BACKER, ELLERY BAILEY, AND



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1 RICKY PERRY, IF THEY'D JOIN US. MISS MCCARTHY, DO YOU WANT
2 BEGIN?

3

4 **SHERRI MCCARTHY:** SURE. I REPRESENT AMERICAN CHEMISTRY COUNCIL,
5 A NATIONAL TRADE ASSOCIATION WHOSE MEMBERS INCLUDE PLASTIC BAG
6 MAKERS. WE UNDERSTAND THE INTEREST IN REDUCING GROCERY BAG
7 LITTER AND WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH YOU TO THAT
8 OBJECTIVE. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT SUPPORT THIS ORDINANCE BECAUSE
9 THIS POLICY WOULD RAISE GROCERY COSTS FOR RESIDENTS, CREATE A
10 TROUBLING POLICY PRECEDENT IN THAT THE COUNTY IS ESTABLISHING
11 A MANDATED CONSUMER CHARGE FOR A COMMODITY YET RECEIVING NO
12 REVENUE TO AID THE ENVIRONMENT. IT ALSO PUTS AT RISK SEVERAL
13 HUNDRED MANUFACTURING JOBS IN THE COUNTY. IT COULD RESULT IN
14 THE DISMANTLING OF A LOCAL PLASTICS RECYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE,
15 REQUIRE THE COUNTY TO SPEND RESOURCES TO IMPLEMENT THESE NEW
16 REQUIREMENTS AND POTENTIALLY VIOLATE THE WILL OF THE PUBLIC
17 BASED ON A PASSAGE OF PROP 26. ORDINANCES LIKE THIS ARE AIMED
18 AT DRIVING CONSUMERS INTO USING REUSABLE BAGS AND WHILE THAT
19 OBJECTIVE IS NOBLE, BEAR IN MIND THAT THESE PRODUCTS HAVE
20 UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES. RECENTLY HEALTH STUDIES HAVE REVEALED
21 THAT MOST CONSUMERS DO NOT WAS WASH THESE REUSABLE BAGS
22 FREQUENTLY REGARDLESS TO WHETHER THEY'RE WASHABLE OR NOT AND
23 THEREFORE MANY HARBOR BACTERIA AND OTHER GERMS AND ALSO THERE
24 ARE REPORTS RECENTLY THAT MANY OF THESE BAGS HAVE HIGH LEVELS
25 OF LEAD, ENOUGH LEAD FOR THESE BAGS TO BE CONSIDERED HAZARDOUS



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1 WASTE IF RESIDENTS PUT THEM INTO THEIR HOUSEHOLD TRASH,
2 PROMOTING IMPORTATION OF POTENTIALLY CONTAMINATED REUSABLE
3 BAGS AT THE EXPENSE OF U.S. PLASTIC BAG MANUFACTURERS.

4

5 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** CAN YOU PLEASE SUMMARIZE?

6

7 **SHERRI MCCARTHY:** IT'S SOMETHING WE ASK YOU NOT TO OVERLOOK.
8 THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, MR. BACKER, IS THAT YOU, SIR?

11

12 **ADRIAN BACKER:** YES. I'M SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE CALIFORNIA
13 FILM EXTRUDERS AND CONVERTERS ASSOCIATION. THE FILM AND BAG
14 MANUFACTURER IN CALIFORNIA IS A SIGNIFICANT MANUFACTURING
15 SECTOR. MORE THAN 500 COMPANIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE
16 MANUFACTURE OF FILM AND BAGS LOCATED WITHIN THE STATE AND MANY
17 IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. VERY QUICKLY, STATEWIDE, THIS INDUSTRY
18 EMPLOYS FOR CARRY OUT BAGS 2,300 EMPLOYEES, BUT ALSO DIRECT
19 UPSTREAM AND DOWNSTREAM SUPPLIERS AN ADDITIONAL 9,200
20 EMPLOYEES FOR A TOTAL OF 11,500. THE GREAT MAJORITY OF
21 AFFECTED BUSINESSES ARE NOT TINY MOM AND POP OPERATIONS; THEY
22 ARE COMPANIES WITH SIGNIFICANT MANUFACTURING SOPHISTICATION
23 AND COMPLEXITY, SUCH THAT THEY CAN PROVIDE THE TYPES OF WAGES
24 AND BENEFITS THAT HAVE LONG BEEN A PILLAR OF SUPPORT FOR OUR
25 STATE AND COUNTY'S MIDDLE CLASS AND, NOT INSIGNIFICANTLY, HAVE



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1 BEEN A KEY COMPONENT OF OUR TAX BASE. THE IMPACT OF THIS BAN
2 WILL LEAD TO THE LOSS OF MACHINERY INVESTMENT AND
3 CONSEQUENTIALLY TO SKILLED LABOR, FULL TIME JOBS ASSOCIATED
4 WITH THOSE INVESTMENTS. IT MUST BE RECOGNIZED IF RETAIL CARRY
5 OUT BAGS ARE SUMMARILY BANNED BY THE STATE OR ANY OF ITS
6 SUBSIDIARY ENTITIES, IN SHORT OR ORDER, FILM MANUFACTURERS
7 WILL COME TO BELIEVE THAT ALL PLASTIC FILM PRODUCTS MAY BE
8 BANNED FROM CALIFORNIA OR LOS ANGELES COUNTY, WHICH CAN BE IN
9 A LARGER EXODUS OF JOBS OUT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY. TOTAL
10 EMPLOYMENT WE ESTIMATE FOR ALL FILM AND BAG PRODUCTS IN THE
11 STATE, 5,500 EMPLOYEES AND THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES DIRECTLY
12 EMPLOYED OR INDIRECTLY EMPLOYED BY UPSTREAM AND DOWNSTREAM
13 SUPPLIERS, ANYWHERE FROM 20,000 TO 26,000.

14

15 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU SO MUCH. IS MR.
16 BAILEY NOT HERE? MR. PERRY NOT HERE? WHAT ABOUT EBRAHIM
17 SIMHAE? ARE YOU HERE, SIR? PLEASE JOIN US. CATHY BROWNE. IS
18 MISS BROWNE HERE? WHAT ABOUT JOE DELGADO. IS MR. DELGADO HERE?
19 THANK YOU. WHAT ABOUT JULIEUN KAWASAKI. PLEASE JOIN US. MR.
20 SIMHAE, WOULD YOU BEGIN?

21

22 **EBRAHIM SIMHAE:** THANK YOU. I'M AN INVENTOR, AND I ESTABLISHED
23 CROWN POLY 20 YEARS AGO. TODAY, CROWN POLY EMPLOYS 300 PEOPLE
24 IN L.A. COUNTY. PUBLIC POLICY SHOULD BE BASED ON FACTS OR
25 SCIENTIFIC TRUTH. HOWEVER, ON THIS ISSUE, THE D.P.W. AND THE



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1 STAFF ARE DRAFTING PUBLIC POLICY BASED ON THEIR OWN PERSONAL
2 BELIEFS, MISINFORMATION AND NON-SCIENTIFIC RUMORS. FOR
3 EXAMPLE, THE ORDINANCE STATES THAT REUSABLE BAG SHOULD HAVE A
4 MINIMUM LIFETIME OF 125 USES, WHILE THIS WAL-MART BAG, WAL-
5 MART REUSABLE BAG FROM CHINA, IT STATES ON THE TAG THAT THE
6 HAS A LIFETIME OF 20 TO 50 USES, AND IT'S HAND WASH ONLY.
7 PROPER WASHING OF REUSABLE BAGS IS A SOCIAL INJUSTICE, AS
8 LOWER INCOME PEOPLE MAY NOT HAVE A WASHING MACHINE IN THEIR
9 HOME AND SOMETIMES BECAUSE THAT LAUNDROMAT IS MORE THAN THE
10 COST OF A NEW REUSABLE BAG. MY QUESTION FROM THE BOARD IS
11 THIS. WHY ARE YOU EXPORTING MY COMPANY'S L.A. COUNTY JOB TO
12 CHINA? IS IT YOUR INTENTION TO SEND MY EMPLOYEES BACK ON THE
13 STREET OF LOS ANGELES? YET YOU ARE DOING THIS WITHOUT ANY
14 SCIENTIFIC PROOF.

15

16 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SIR, DO YOU WANT TO SUMMARIZE? YOUR MINUTE
17 IS UP.

18

19 **EBRAHIM SIMHAE:** INCLUDING THE THICKNESS OF 2.25 MIL IN
20 ORDINANCE IS UNNECESSARY BECAUSE A.B.-2449 NO LONGER APPLIES.
21 THE MINIMUM THICKNESS OF 2.25 MIL OF POLYETHYLENE REUSABLE BAG
22 IS--

23



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1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR. CAN WE ASK EACH OF YOU TO
2 STAY WITHIN THE MINUTE TO MAKE YOUR KEY POINTS AS MUCH AS
3 POSSIBLE. MR. DELGADO.

4
5 **JOE DELGADO:** HI. JOE DELGADO, V.P. OF MANUFACTURING AT COMMAND
6 PACKAGING IN LOS ANGELES. WE EMPLOY ABOUT 250 EMPLOYEES IN OUR
7 FACILITY AND WE RECYCLE AND MAKE MANUFACTURED PLASTIC BAGS
8 WITH RECYCLE. MY COMPANY CAN INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF PLASTIC
9 THAT IS RECYCLED, WE HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY TO MANUFACTURE AN
10 AFFORDABLE REUSABLE BAG FROM RECYCLED MATERIAL. THREE YEARS
11 AGO, MY COMPANY INVESTED IN RECYCLING EQUIPMENT TO REMOVE
12 PLASTICS FROM THE L.A. COUNTY WASTE STRAIN. IN 2010, WE
13 RECYCLED SIX MILLION POUNDS OF PLASTIC THAT WE COLLECTED FROM
14 THE COMMUNITIES, TURNED INTO RAW MATERIALS TO REDUCE PLASTIC
15 BAGS. THIS RECYCLING EQUIPMENT ADDED 30 NEW JOBS IN LOS
16 ANGELES COUNTY. WE HAD PLANS TO INVEST SEVERAL MILLIONS OF
17 DOLLARS BACK INTO L.A. COUNTY AND BUY MORE EQUIPMENT TO SORT
18 OUT CLEAN AND RECYCLED DIRTY PLASTICS FROM THE WASTE STREAM IN
19 MUNICIPALITIES THAT ARE FORCED TO SEND THIS PLASTIC MATERIAL
20 TODAY DOWN TO CHINA AND CREATE JOBS OVER THERE AND IMPORT BACK
21 INTO OUR COUNTRY. THE EQUIPMENT IS ON HOLD BECAUSE OF L.A.
22 COUNTY'S NEGATIVE STANCE ON PLASTIC BAGS. L.A. COUNTY'S
23 POLICIES ARE PREVENTING FROM CREATING NEW MANUFACTURING GREEN
24 JOBS HERE IN L.A. COUNTY. AND AT A TIME WHEN UP EMPLOYMENT IS
25 HIGH AND JOB GROWTH IS SLOW, THE COUNTY NEEDS COMPANIES LIKE



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1 MINE TO INVEST AND GROW, NOT TO BE TORN DOWN BY A GROUP OF
2 INDIVIDUALS.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR.

5

6 **JOE DELGADO:** THANK YOU, AND I ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND YOU
7 STICK WITH THE FACTS, NOT POPULAR--

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SIR. COULD WE HAVE CHANDLER HADRABA JOIN
10 US AS WELL AS PETER GRANDE. PLEASE. YOU'RE NEXT.

11

12 **CATHY BROWNE:** GOOD MORNING, MADAME CHAIR AND SUPERVISORS. MY
13 NAME IS CATHY BROWNE, I'M GENERAL MANAGER OF CROWN POLY, AND
14 AS PREVIOUSLY STATED, WE HAVE OVER 300 EMPLOYEES HERE IN L.A.
15 COUNTY. MY COMPANY FOLLOWS STRICT ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES IN
16 PRODUCING POLYETHYLENE BAGS. OUR BAGS CONTAIN ZERO ELEMENTS OF
17 LEAD, CADMIUM OR OTHER HEAVY METALS. THE REUSABLE BAGS THAT
18 THE COUNTY THEMSELVES GAVE OUT, WE HAD INDEPENDENTLY TESTED
19 AND IT WAS ABOVE THE LEGAL LIMIT BY CALIFORNIA LAW. IF
20 CALIFORNIA PLASTIC BAG MANUFACTURERS HAVE TO FOLLOW THE LAW, I
21 ASK THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS NOT TO ALLOW IMPORTED BAGS OVER
22 THE LEGAL LIMIT OF LEAD AND CADMIUM TO BE ALLOWED IN THE
23 COUNTY. MORE THAN FIVE MAJOR GROCERY AND PHARMACY CHAINS IN
24 THE U.S. HAVE ALREADY RECALLED THESE BAGS. THESE ARE PLASTIC
25 BAGS. THEY'RE IMPORTED. THEY'VE ALREADY BEEN RECALLED DUE TO



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1 EXCESSIVE HEAVY METALS CONTENT, 7 TO 10 TIMES THE LEGAL LIMIT.
2 YOUR ORDINANCE DOES NEAR A FINAL A.B.1998 LANGUAGE IN THREE
3 AREAS, INCLUDING DEFINING THE LIMIT OF TOXIC CHEMICALS IN
4 REUSABLE BAGS AND I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOUR MIRROR
5 FINAL A.B.1998 LANGUAGE IN THE ORDINANCE.

6

7 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** YOU'LL BE IMPRESSED WITH US AT THE END OF
8 THE DAY. MRS. KAWASAKI.

9

10 **JULIEUN KAWASAKI:** HI, I'M JULIEUN KAWASAKI, DIRECTOR OF
11 MARKETING AT COMMAND PACKAGING IN LOS ANGELES. I AM
12 RESPONSIBLE FOR TELLING OUR CUSTOMERS WHAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL
13 IMPACT IS FOR THE PRODUCTS WE MANUFACTURE. IN ORDER TO DO
14 THAT, I RELY ON SCIENTIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS PUBLISHED ON
15 THE SUBJECT OF PAPER VERSUS PLASTIC. I CAN ATTEST THAT ALL OF
16 THE NEGATIVE CAMPAIGNING ABOUT PLASTIC TEE SHIRT BAGS HAS
17 ALREADY HAD A PROFOUND NEGATIVE IMPACT ON ALL PLASTIC
18 PRODUCTS. THE NEGATIVE PRESS HAS DAMAGED THE REPUTATION OF ALL
19 PLASTICS, GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL ONES LIKE THE RECYCLING PROGRAM
20 WE HAVE AT OUR COMPANY. THE NEGATIVE PRESS HAS COST OUR
21 COMPANY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN CONTRACTS AND SADLY HAS COST
22 L.A. COUNTY JOBS. MANY RETAILERS AND RESTAURANTS ARE SWITCHING
23 TO PAPER BAGS BECAUSE OF ALL THE PLASTIC BASHING. WHILE THIS
24 MIGHT MAKE SOME IN THIS ROOM HAPPY, THE PROBLEM IS THAT STORES
25 DO NOT STOP OFFERING BAGS, THEY SIMPLY SWITCH TO PAPER. SAN



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1 FRANCISCO WHOLE FOODS AND TRADER JOE'S ARE ALL PROOF THAT WHEN
2 YOU ELIMINATE PLASTIC BAGS, CONSUMERS JUST TAKE PAPER.
3 STATISTICS SHOW THAT LESS THAN 15 PERCENT OF CONSUMERS BRING
4 REUSABLE BAGS WHEN THEY SHOP. SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FURTHER
5 PROVES THAT PAPER BAGS ARE FAR WORSE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT THAN
6 PLASTIC BAGS. THE COUNTY CHARGING 10 CENTS FOR PAPER BAGS IS
7 ADMISSION OF THIS AS WELL. THE PROBLEM IS THAT 10 CENTS IS NOT
8 ENOUGH.

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MRS. KAWASAKI. MR. GRANDE.
11 COULD WE ALSO HAVE KEITH SHIELDS JOIN US AS WELL AS GEORGE
12 KIVETT.

13

14 **PETER GRANDE:** GOOD MORNING, THANK YOU. MY NAME'S PETE GRANDE.
15 I'M THE PRESIDENT OF COMMAND PACKAGING. WE RECYCLE AND
16 MANUFACTURE PLASTIC BAGS HERE IN L.A. COUNTY. WE HAVE 250
17 EMPLOYEES. THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME CONFUSION. I'M HOLDING TWO
18 BAGS. THIS IS AN IMPORTED BAG, REUSABLE BAG; THIS IS A BAG WE
19 MANUFACTURER HERE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. IT'S A REUSABLE BAG.
20 BOTH ARE ENGINEERED FOR 125 USES AND CAN CARRY 22 POUNDS. BOTH
21 BAGS ARE MADE FROM PLASTIC. OUR BAG IS MADE FROM RECYCLED
22 MATERIAL, THE IMPORTED BAG IS NOT. THE IMPORTED BAGS, THERE'S
23 NO WAY YOU'LL BE ABLE TO STOP THEM FROM HAVING HEAVY METALS IN
24 THEM. OUR BAGS ARE HEAVY METAL-FREE. THE BAG WE MAKE HERE IS
25 THE BAG THAT IS USED IN EUROPE. THE IMPORTED BAG IS NOT. THE



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1 BAG WE MAKE HERE WILL COST APPROXIMATELY THE SAME AS PAPER.
2 THE IMPORTED BAGS COST FAR MORE. I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY A BAG
3 THAT'S BETTER IN EVERY WAY IS EXCLUDED FROM THIS ORDINANCE.
4 IT'S NOT THE LANGUAGE OF 1998, WHICH I PERSONALLY WORKED ON
5 WITH ASSEMBLYWOMAN BROWNLEY'S OFFICE TO TRY TO MAKE SURE THE
6 CALIFORNIA MANUFACTURERS COULD ACTUALLY CREATE A GREEN ECONOMY
7 HERE. WE CAN DO THIS IN L.A. COUNTY. THE AMENDMENT NEEDS TO BE
8 PASSED AND THE LANGUAGE NEEDS TO BE CHANGED. THANK YOU.

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MR. HADRABA.

11

12 **CHANDLER HADRABA:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU
13 FOR TAKING TIME TO EXPLORE THE PARTICULAR CHALLENGES POSED BY
14 PLASTIC PACKAGING PRODUCTS AND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS. SADLY, THE
15 OPTIONS BEFORE YOU DO NOT CREATE A TEMPLATE FOR ALL THE
16 PLASTIC PACKAGING PRODUCTS THAT GO IN THE BAG AT THE STORE.
17 THIS IS NOT REALLY THE ISSUE TO FOCUS UPON. THE PLASTIC BAGS
18 SUBJECT TO THIS ORDINANCE CAN BE RECYCLED OR ACTUALLY UPCYCLED
19 IN A WAY THAT MEETS BOTH THE ZERO WASTE AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES
20 GOALS AS PART OF THE GREEN CITIES CALIFORNIA PROGRAM.
21 TERRACYCLE HAS PROGRAMS RIGHT NOW TO COLLECT PLASTIC BAGS AND
22 CREATE OTHER CONSUMER GOODS. WHAT IF PLASTIC BAGS WERE
23 INCLUDED IN A C.R.V. DEPOSIT PROGRAM JUST LIKE CANS AND GLASS?
24 WHERE ARE THOSE OPTIONS IN THE SOLUTIONS BEFORE YOU TODAY? IF
25 LOS ANGELES COUNTY IS UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO USE THIS



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1 OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD THE NATION TO A SOLUTION THAT CAN APPLY TO
2 ALL PLASTIC PACKAGING PRODUCTS, WILL THIS ISSUE NOT ARISE YET
3 AGAIN? EVEN THE LANGUAGE OF DEBATE HAS CHANGED FROM MARINE
4 DEBRIS TO PLASTIC POLLUTION. POLLUTION IS A MUCH MORE
5 ENCOMPASSING IDEA. SHOULD NOT THIS BE A CONSIDERATION? BEFORE
6 YOU DISMISS MY ARGUMENT AND SAY AN JUST AN INDUSTRY HACK, I
7 WANT TO INFORM YOU THAT I'M A MEMBER OF HEAL THE BAY, AND NOT
8 JUST ANY MEMBER, BUT A MEMBER OF THE BAY CHAMPIONS GROUP. IN
9 THE LETTER I HAVE BEFORE ME, MARK GOLD DESCRIBES ME AS ONE OF
10 THE MOST GENEROUS ADVOCATES. IF I'M NOT SERIOUS ABOUT THE
11 ENVIRONMENT, WOULD I SUPPORT HEAL THE BAY, AND WOULD THEY
12 ALLOW ME TO BE A MEMBER? THANK YOU.

13

14 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR. COULD WE HAVE EDOARDO
15 RAMOS JOIN US, AS WELL AS ALBERT HALIMI. MR. SHIELDS.

16

17 **KEITH SHIELDS:** YES. MY NAME IS KEITH SHIELDS AND I HAVE A
18 START-UP NONPROFIT HERE IN LOS ANGELES AND I AM HERE TO
19 SUPPORT "NO" ON PLASTIC BAN BAGS BAN. A MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR
20 PROFIT CENTER HAS CREATED AT THE EXPENSE OF THE POOR. WE'RE
21 ASKING THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO NOT USE THEIR PEN TO
22 MAKE SUPERMARKETS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS AT THE EXPENSE OF THE
23 POOR, BECAUSE MILLIONS OF CALIFORNIANS ARE HURTING. THEY DON'T
24 HAVE ANY JOBS, THEY DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY, AND THE SOCIAL
25 SERVICES ARE SIMPLY RUNNING DRY. GIVEN THE DIRE ECONOMIC



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1 LANDSCAPE, IT IS INSULTING THAT OUR COUNTY BOARD OF
2 SUPERVISORS WOULD CONSIDER AN ORDINANCE THAT WOULD FORCE THE
3 POOR AND THE ELDERLY TO PAY FOR PAPER BAGS. THE COUNTY BOARD
4 OF SUPERVISORS NEEDS TO KNOW THAT ANY CONSIDERATION TO OUTLAW
5 PLASTIC CARRY BAGS AT RETAIL STORES WRONGLY TARGETS PRODUCTS
6 THAT CAN EASILY BE RECYCLED AND COMMONLY REUSED. INSTEAD, THE
7 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SHOULD ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO REDUCE, TO
8 REUSE AND TO RECYCLE.

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR.

11

12 **MR. KIVETT?**

13

14 **>>GEORGE KIVETT:** GOOD MORNING, CHAIRMAN MOLINA AND MEMBERS OF
15 THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS GEORGE
16 KIVETT AND I'M THE CHAIRMAN OF THE REGIONAL SOUTH BAY
17 ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE. WE ARE COMPRISED OF 16
18 CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE SERVING OVER 53,000 BUSINESSES IN THE
19 SOUTH BAY AREA. THE PROPOSED LOCAL ORDINANCE TO BAN PLASTIC
20 BAGS AND IMPLEMENT A MINIMUM OF 10 CENTS PER BAG WILL HURT
21 BUSINESS IN THE SOUTH BAY. WHILE IT'S TRUE FOR LARGE STORES TO
22 USE THEIR BUYING POWER TO NEGOTIATE A LOWER PRICE FOR BAGS AND
23 THEREFORE OFFER A LOWER PRICE BAG TO THE CUSTOMERS, THE
24 ORDINANCE WOULD BE DISPROPORTIONATELY UNFAVORABLE TO SMALL
25 BUSINESSES INCLUDING THE MOM AND POP OPERATIONS. AS YOU'RE



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1 AWARE, THE SMALL BUSINESSES ARE THE BACKBONE OF OUR ECONOMY.
2 IF THIS ORDINANCE BECOMES LAW, WE NEED TO ASK THE QUESTION,
3 HOW MANY SMALL BUSINESSES WILL BE HURT? FURTHERMORE, PEOPLE
4 WILL GO UNEMPLOYED AS LOS ANGELES COUNTY IS HOME TO SOME OF
5 CALIFORNIA'S LEADING PLASTIC BAG MANUFACTURERS. WE BELIEVE THE
6 COUNTY CAN TRY OTHER AVENUES BESIDES CREATING A PROPOSED BAG
7 TAX. THE S.P.A.C.C. WOULD WELCOME A DIFFERENT DIRECTION BY THE
8 COUNTY AND INPUT FROM SOUTH BAY BUSINESS COMMUNITY IF GIVEN A
9 CHANCE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

10

11 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR. MR. RAMOS?

12

13 **EDOARDO RAMOS:** I DON'T HAVE THAT MUCH LIVING OUT HERE. I HAVE
14 THREE YEARS OUT HERE, STARTED WORKING AT A PLASTIC, I'M A
15 MACHINE OPERATOR, SO I MAKE THE PLASTIC BAGS. I COME FROM SAN
16 FRANCISCO. THAT'S OUT OF THE AREA. PEOPLE TRY TO REMOVE
17 PLASTIC BAGS FROM HERE, BUT ACTUALLY, THERE'S A LOT OF PAPER
18 BAGS ON THE FLOOR, SO THERE'S MORE POLLUTION OUT THERE, SO, I
19 MEAN, I DON'T SEE MYSELF CARRYING ONE OF THOSE BAGS AT THE
20 STORE WHEN I GO GROCERY SHOPPING. I DON'T JUST GET A LITTLE
21 BIT OF MILK. WE BUY A LOT OF GROCERIES, SO IT'S GOING TO BE A
22 LOT HARDER TO CARRY THOSE BAGS.

23

24 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SO LET'S NOT MAKE IT HARD ON YOU? IS THAT
25 WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?



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1

2 **EDOARDO RAMOS:** YEAH, YEAH. I DON'T THINK IT'S A PROBLEM.
3 PEOPLE WORRYING ABOUT PLASTIC BAGS WHEN THEY SHOULD BE
4 WORRYING ABOUT OTHER THINGS. LIKE I SAID, I HAVE THREE YEARS
5 HERE, AND THE PROBLEMS I SEE OUT HERE, ACTUALLY IT'S THE
6 WRITING ON THE WALLS, A LOT OF HOODLUMS OUT THERE ON THE
7 STREETS INSTEAD OF, YOU KNOW, THEY SHOULD BE WORRYING ABOUT
8 THOSE THINGS.

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WE WORRY ABOUT THOSE, TOO.

11

12 **EDOARDO RAMOS:** THOSE SKATEBOARDERS, YOU KNOW, WRITING ON THE
13 WALLS AND ALL THAT.

14

15 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MR. RAMOS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR
16 INPUT. SIR?

17

18 **ALBERT HALIMI:** GOOD MORNING. I'M ALBERT HALIMI, CO-OWNER OF
19 COMMAND PACKAGING. WE HAVE 250 EMPLOYEES IN OUR LOS ANGELES
20 COUNTY WHERE WE RECYCLE AND MANUFACTURE PLASTIC BAGS. MORE
21 THAN A HUNDRED L.A. COUNTY SUPPLIERS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES WILL
22 ALSO FEEL THE RIPPLE EFFECT IF OUR COMPANY WERE TO FAIL. L.A.
23 COUNTY CANNOT AFFORD THE LOSS OF JOBS. OUR COMPANY HAS
24 INVESTED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO COLLECT PLASTIC AND DIVERT IT
25 FROM L.A. COUNTY AREA LANDFILLS. WE ALREADY HAVE THE



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1 TECHNOLOGY TO MAKE A LOW COST REUSABLE BAG FROM RECYCLED
2 PLASTICS. EVERYONE IN L.A. COUNTY CAN AFFORD OUR BAGS, RICH
3 AND POOR. UNDER THIS ORDINANCE, OUR REUSABLE BAGS WOULD BE
4 BANNED, EVEN THOUGH YOUR OWN STUDY SHOWS THAT OUR BAGS HAVE
5 THE LOWEST ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT OF ANY REUSABLE BAG.
6 DOESN'T IT MAKE SENSE TO PROMOTE REUSABLE BAGS THAT L.A.
7 COUNTY RESIDENTS CAN ACTUALLY AFFORD AND WILL BE MORE LIKELY
8 TO USE? WE URGE YOU TO CONSIDER THE TEMPTATION TO PASS-- TO
9 VOTE "YES" ON THIS ORDINANCE AND WORK WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES TO
10 FIND SENSIBLE SOLUTIONS. THANK YOU.

11

12 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR. LORENA GUTIERREZ IS THE
13 LAST SPEAKER ON THE OPPOSITION FOR NOW. MISS GUTIERREZ? NOT
14 HERE? NO? HOW ABOUT STEPHEN JOSEPH? MR. JOSEPH, WOULD YOU JOIN
15 US, PLEASE.

16

17 **STEPHEN JOSEPH:** GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS STEVEN
18 JOSEPH. I'M COUNSEL TO THE SAVE THE PLASTIC BAG COALITION. WE
19 OBJECT TO CERTIFICATION OF THE E.I.R. AND THE APPROVAL OF THE
20 PROJECT. WE HAVE FILED WRITTEN OBJECTIONS WITH THE COUNTY, AND
21 LITIGATION REMAINS AN OPTION. I'D LIKE TO TALK ABOUT THE LEAD
22 ISSUE, IF I MAY, BECAUSE I THINK IT'S BEING UNDERREPORTED,
23 UNDERSTATED, AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IS SHOWING AN
24 INCLINATION TO IGNORE THE ISSUE. THIS IS A BAG THAT WAS HANDED
25 OUT TO THE PUBLIC BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY. IT IS FULL OF LEAD



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1 AND MERCURY. WE HAVE THE TEST RESULTS RIGHT HERE. WHY DIDN'T
2 THE COUNTY TEST THIS BAG? BECAUSE IT'S TOO DIFFICULT TO DO.
3 WELL, DO YOU EXPECT EVERY RETAILER THAT GETS ALL KINDS OF
4 REUSABLE BAGS COMING IN FROM CHINA TO TEST REUSABLE BAGS? IT'S
5 ABSURD. WE'RE GOING TO BE FLOODED WITH TOXIC REUSABLE BAGS IN
6 THIS COUNTY AND THE ORDINANCE THAT YOU ARE PASSING, WHETHER
7 YOU PUT IN THE DEFINITION OF TOXIC AMOUNTS OR NOT IS GOING TO
8 DO NOTHING TO STOP IT. SENATOR CHARLES SCHUMER, FEDERAL
9 SENATOR FROM NEW YORK HAS ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE YESTERDAY AND
10 I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO READ IT. IT'S VERY
11 SHORT.

12

13 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO READ IT, SIR.

14

15 **STEPHEN JOSEPH:** WELL, HE'S ASKING FOR A FEDERAL INVESTIGATION.

16

17 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** OKAY. OKAY. GO AHEAD. SUMMARIZE IT.

18

19 **STEPHEN JOSEPH:** I WILL. HE SAYS THAT THEY HAVE BEEN FINDING
20 REUSABLE BAGS WITH FIVE TIMES THE ALLOWABLE LIMITS.

21

22 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU. SIR.

23

24 **STEPHEN JOSEPH:** OF LEAD AND THEY'RE ASKING FOR A FEDERAL
25 INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE--



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1

2 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WE WANT YOU TO BE RESPECTFUL OF EVERYONE.
3 SIR, PLEASE. ALL RIGHT. THAT CONCLUDES THE 15 FOLKS IN
4 OPPOSITION. THE PEOPLE IN FAVOR HAVE GRACIOUSLY-- THEY HAVE
5 ABOUT 26 OTHER SPEAKERS AS WELL AS PETITIONS THAT THEY WISH TO
6 PRESENT AND THEY HAVE GRACIOUSLY GIVEN UP THEIR TIME SO THAT
7 THEY COULD HAVE THREE SPEAKERS THAT COULD SPEAK, SO I'M GOING
8 TO ASK THEM TO JOIN US. WE WOULD HOPEFULLY CONSIDER THAT THE
9 OPPOSITION COULD BE EQUALLY AS COURTEOUS SO WE CAN GET GOING
10 TO THE DISCUSSION ON THIS. FIRST OF ALL, WE HAVE GABRIELLA
11 WEEKS FOLLOWED BY JEFF FERRO AND MARK GOLD. IF YOU'D JOIN US.
12 AGAIN, TRY AND STAY WITHIN A MINUTE IF YOU CAN TO MAKE YOUR
13 KEY POINTS. I KNOW THAT MANY OF YOU HAVE TRAVELED FAR TO COME
14 HERE AND WE APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT YOU ARE WILL TO GIVE UP
15 YOUR TIME. WE WILL HAVE YOU STAND AT THE END OF THE
16 PRESENTATION, AND THEN WE WILL CONTINUE WITH THE OPPOSITION
17 AND HOPEFULLY GET THEM TO LIMIT THEIR TIME AS MUCH AS
18 POSSIBLE. MISS WEEKS?

19

20 **GABRIELLA WEEKS:** I'LL SKIP MY STATISTICS THAT WERE ALREADY
21 COVERED BY GAIL FARBER AND SUJA LOWENTHAL ABOUT THE PLASTIC
22 BAGS AND GET TO ONE OF THE BIG ISSUES WE'RE NOT TALKING ENOUGH
23 ABOUT. MONEY. AS MR. JOSEPH JUST SAID, LITIGATION IS STILL ON
24 THE TABLE. THEY CAN SUE US. THEY HAVE SUED US. THEY LOST.
25 THAT'S NOT STOPPING THEM FROM THREATENING TO SUE AGAIN AND



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1 AGAIN, BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT THEY DO BEST, THEY SUE. A LOT OF
2 OTHER INDUSTRIES HAVE MADE EFFORTS TO ADDRESS LITTER AND
3 THEY'VE HELPED WITH BEACH CLEAN-UPS. THEY'RE GIVING AWAY CHICO
4 BAGS OUT FRONT, BUT THE AMERICAN CHEMISTRY COUNCIL AND A FEW
5 OF THESE OTHER PLASTIC BUSINESSES WILL DO EVERYTHING
6 IMAGINABLE TO AVOID REGULATION. THEY SPENT \$2 MILLION BLOCKING
7 A.B.1998. IT'S ASTOUNDING HOW MUCH MONEY AND HOW MUCH
8 MANIPULATION THESE BILLION-DOLLAR CORPORATIONS IN THE PLASTICS
9 INDUSTRY HAVE SPENT TO RUIN OUR DEMOCRACY AND THEY'RE STILL
10 THREATENING TO SUE YOU TODAY. PLEASE DON'T GIVE INTO THIS KIND
11 OF BULLYING AND MANIPULATION. THEY'RE ASKING US TO WATER DOWN
12 OUR ORDINANCE WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY THREATENING TO SUE, JUST A
13 MOMENT AGO. IT IS SHAMEFUL TO WATCH POLLUTING INDUSTRIES USE
14 ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS LIKE C.E.Q.A. TO PREVENT REGULATION OF
15 SINGLE USE THROW-AWAY PLASTIC BAGS. THESE BUSINESSES SHOULD
16 NOT BE REWARDED BY ALLOWING THEM TO DELAY THIS VOTE AND TO
17 BULLY YOU AND ME. I AM PROUD THAT L.A. COUNTY IS VOTING TO BAN
18 THESE USELESS, HARMFUL AND TOTALLY REDUNDANT BAGS. IT TAKES
19 COURAGE TO STAND UP TO THESE WELL FUNDED BUSINESSES WHO ARE
20 OPPOSING YOU AND I HOPE THAT YOU STAND FIRM AND MOVE FORWARD
21 WITH THIS TODAY.

22
23 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MISS WEEKS. HAVE MR. FERRO NOT
24 HERE? NO? MR. GOLD, PLEASE.



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1 **MARK GOLD:** ALL RIGHT. GOOD MORNING. ON BEHALF OF HEAL THE BAY
2 AND OUR OVER 13,000 MEMBERS, WE COMMEND THE COUNTY FOR THEIR
3 LEADERSHIP ON THE SINGLE USE PAPER BAG AND PLASTIC BAG ISSUE.
4 YOU GAVE THE PLASTIC BAG RECYCLING A TRY AND THE PROGRAM WAS
5 AN EPIC FAILURE. YOU CANNOT RECYCLE YOUR WAY TO A SOLUTION, TO
6 A PLASTIC BAG POLLUTION PROBLEM. A BAN IS THE ONLY VIABLE
7 SOLUTION. WE'VE HEARD ALL THE ARGUMENTS FROM STEPHEN JOSEPH
8 WHO SHOWS UP EVERYWHERE AROUND THE COUNTRY ON THESE SORTS OF
9 ISSUES. THEY CLAIM THAT REUSABLE BAGS CAN CARRY PATHOGENS IF
10 BAGS AREN'T WASHED. THAT'S WHY THE ORDINANCE SAYS THE BAGS
11 NEEDS TO BE WASHABLE SO THAT WE CAN DEAL WITH THESE SORTS OF
12 ISSUES. YOU'VE HEARD THE CLAIMS ABOUT TOXIC LEAD AND HEAVY
13 METALS, YET IS SAYS RIGHT IN THE ORDINANCE THAT YOU CANNOT
14 HAVE CADMIUM OR LEAD IN TOXIC AMOUNTS. WE COMMEND THE COUNTY
15 FOR STANDING UP TO THE LITIGATION THREATS FROM THE AMERICAN
16 CHEMISTRY COUNCIL AND A SOUTH CAROLINA PLASTIC BAG POLLUTER.
17 PLEASE PASS THE ORDINANCE AS WRITTEN. THE COST OF CONVENIENCE
18 CAN NO LONGER BE AT THE EXPENSE OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR
19 CENTURIES TO COME. THANK YOU.

20
21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MR. GOLD, AND THANK YOU FOR THE
22 PEOPLE WHO ARE IN FAVOR. I KNOW YOU TRAVELED A LONG WAY. WE'RE
23 GOING TO LISTEN TO THE OPPOSITION. IF YOU DON'T WISH TO SPEAK,
24 YOU CAN JUST STAND UP, AND SO I'M GOING TO HAVE ALL OF THOSE
25 IN FAVOR THAT DIDN'T GET-- OR THAT SPOKE OR DIDN'T GET TO



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1 SPEAK TO PLEASE STAND. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR JOINING US TODAY
2 AND WE APPRECIATE YOUR COURTESY. THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT. MR.
3 GUERRERO, IVAN GUERRERO, MARIA SERRATO, LETECIA CAMPOS, ANDREW
4 BARRERA, AND KENNY JONES. JUST OPEN THE DOOR, SIR. IS MARIA
5 HERE? NO? LETICIA CAMPOS, IS SHE HERE? NO? ANDREW BARRERA?
6 KENNY JONES? THANK YOU. SAMANTHA DABISH, PLEASE JOIN US. SIR.

7

8 **IVAN GUERRERO:** HI. MY NAME IS IVAN GUERRERO AND I WORK FOR
9 EPSILON PLASTICS. IT'S LOCATED IN RANCHO DOMINGUEZ. I'M A
10 RESIDENT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AS WELL. OUR COMPANY EMPLOYEES
11 AROUND A HUNDRED EMPLOYEES. WE OPPOSE THE BAG BAN AND I
12 PERSONALLY CONSIDER IT'S NOT THE RIGHT SOLUTION FOR OUR
13 COUNTY. FIRST, THE JOBS OF HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE ARE IN JEOPARDY,
14 INCLUDING MINE, AND AS I HEARD A WHILE AGO, MAYBE LIKE 11,000
15 EMPLOYEES. SO THIS WILL MEAN MORE UNEMPLOYMENT AND LESS TAX
16 REVENUE FOR THE COUNTY, SO I URGE THE BOARD TO PROTECT OUR
17 JOBS AND VOTE "NO" ON THE BAG BAN. THANK YOU.

18

19 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR. MR. BARRERA.

20

21 **ANDREW BARRERA:** YES, ANDREW BARRERA, I REPRESENT THE
22 CALIFORNIA HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. WE REPRESENT
23 APPROXIMATELY 700,000 BUSINESSES THROUGHOUT THE STATE. I'VE
24 ALSO WORKED WITH THE S.P.D.C. PROGRAMS AND THE MICROENTERPRISE
25 PROGRAMS HERE IN THE CITY OF L.A., WORKED WITH ABOUT 3,000



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1 BUSINESSSES. ONE OF OUR ISSUES IS THAT WE REALLY-- THE SMALL
2 BUSINESS COMMUNITY HAS NOT BEEN PART OF THE PROCESS. WE WANT
3 CLEAN NEIGHBORHOODS, BUT WE ALSO WANT TO BE PART OF THE
4 SOLUTION. I HAPPEN TO ATTEND THE WORKING GROUP OF YOUR STAFF
5 HERE AND WHEN I RAISED THE QUESTION WAS THERE ANY ECONOMIC
6 IMPACT CONDUCTED REGARDING THE SMALL BUSINESSES, AND
7 ESPECIALLY IN THE LOW TO MODERATE AREAS, THAT DID NOT HAPPEN.
8 WE FEEL THIS COULD CAUSE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP ON SMALL
9 BUSINESSES, AND THE ONE THING THAT WAS NOT DISCUSSED IN
10 ECONOMIC IMPACT WAS THE DOLLAR FINES THAT WILL BE IMPACTED. I
11 THINK IT'S \$100 FOR THE FIRST, AND THAT'S PER BAG, SO I THINK
12 THERE'S A WHOLE ISSUE HERE THAT HAS NOT BEEN ADDRESSED AND WE
13 URGE A "NO" VOTE ON THE BAN ORDINANCE.

14

15 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, MISS JONES.

16

17 **KENNY JONES:** YES. GOOD MORNING. I COME ALSO REPRESENTING
18 SENIORS BECAUSE THE SENIORS, THEY ARE THE FORGOTTEN IN ALL OF
19 THIS. THE FIRST THING THAT I'M CONCERNED ABOUT IS HAVING TO
20 SPEND 10 CENTS ON EVEN HAVING TO PAY FOR THESE THINGS.
21 SECONDLY, I KEEP HEARING RIGHT NOW, I MUST ADMIT, I'M VISUALLY
22 IMPAIRED, BUT IT DOESN'T STOP ME FROM HEARING WHAT I NEED TO
23 HEAR, AND ONE THING THAT'S GOING ON RIGHT NOW IS HOW IT
24 AFFECTS UNEMPLOYMENT. IT SEEMS LIKE A LOT IS FOCUSED ON PAPER
25 BAGS INSTEAD OF PEOPLE, BECAUSE ONCE WE FIND OUT THAT THIS HAS



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1 AN EFFECT ON UNEMPLOYMENT, I THINK THAT I WOULD PRAY THAT THE
2 COUNTY SUPERVISORS WOULD USE GODLY WISDOM IN DETERMINING HOW
3 THEY'RE GOING TO VOTE ON THIS. WE ARE SUFFERING ENOUGH. I WANT
4 TO THANK PERSONALLY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS FOR HIS EFFORTS
5 TO TRY TO BRING JOBS AND HERE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT BRINGING
6 JOBS ON THE ONE HAND AND ELIMINATING A BUNCH OF OTHERS. TO ME,
7 THAT MAKES NO SENSE. THE EFFORTS SHOULD BE SPENT MORE ON
8 DETERMINING WHAT'S RIGHT INSTEAD OF ON OPINIONS. THANK YOU.

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MISS JONES. COULD I HAVE LLUVIA
11 VASQUEZ JOIN US, DR. ZYRA MCCLOUD, VELMA UNION. IS MISS
12 VASQUEZ NOT HERE? HOW ABOUT MELISSA MCCLOUD? MISS DABISH.

13

14 **SAMANTHA DABISH:** THANK YOU. MY NAME IS SAMANTHA DABISH AND I'M
15 HERE REPRESENTING THE NEIGHBORHOOD MARKET ASSOCIATION, WHICH
16 REPRESENTS INDEPENDENT RETAILERS, CONVENIENCE STORES, MOM AND
17 POP GROCERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA. WE HAVE OVER
18 2,000 MEMBERS. I'D LIKE TO START OFF BY SAYING THAT WE
19 ACTUALLY SUPPORTED A.B.1998 AND WE PREFER STATEWIDE STANDARD,
20 BUT THIS ORDINANCE BEING PROPOSED TODAY HAS SOME DISTINCT
21 DIFFERENCES THAT WE CANNOT SUPPORT. THERE IS A
22 DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT ON SMALL NEIGHBORHOOD STORES. THEY
23 DON'T HAVE THE SAME BUYING POWER THAT CHAIN STORES HAVE. PAPER
24 BAGS WILL BE MORE EXPENSIVE FOR THEM TO BUY, REUSABLE BAGS
25 WILL BE MORE EXPENSIVE FOR THEM TO OBTAIN. AND NOT TO MENTION



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1 THE SANITARY CONCERNS WITH THE REUSABLE BAGS. ANOTHER CONCERN
2 THAT WE HAVE IS THAT THERE'S AN EXEMPTION FOR THOSE CUSTOMERS
3 THAT ARE ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, THOSE THAT USE W.I.C. OR A.B.T.
4 WE HAVE SOME STORES THAT HAVE 80 TO 90 PERCENT OF THEIR
5 CUSTOMERS ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. IF THEY ARE TOLD THEY HAVE TO
6 PROVIDE PAPER BAGS TO THESE CUSTOMERS AT NO COST AND AT THE
7 SAME TIME THEY'RE PAYING MORE FOR THE PAPER BAGS BECAUSE THEY
8 DON'T HAVE THE BUYING POWER, THEN THE SMALL MOM AND POP STORES
9 WILL BE AT AN EXTREME ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE, AND THEY ALREADY
10 ARE.

11

12 **SUP. MOLINA:** PLEASE SUMMARIZE, MISS DABISH.

13

14 **SAMANTHA DABISH:** OKAY. THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS WILL ALSO
15 INCREASE FOR THE SMALL BUSINESSES. THAT'S SOMETHING THAT IS
16 COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM A.B. 1998 AND THAT WE HAVE A REAL
17 PROBLEM WITH.

18

19 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

20

21 **SAMANTHA DABISH:** THAT QUARTERLY REPORTING WILL BE OVERLY
22 BURDENSOME AND--

23

24 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** DR. MCCLOUD.

25



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1 **ZYRA MCCLOUD:** OKAY. THANK YOU, AMBASSADOR DR. ZYRA MCCLOUD AND
2 I REPRESENT PARENT AND COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM. PARENT AND
3 COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM IS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT BRINGS
4 TOGETHER LEGISLATORS, EDUCATORS, BUSINESSES, SCHOOLS, PARENTS
5 AND TEACHERS, AND I'M HERE TODAY TO OPPOSE THE PLASTIC BAG BAN
6 BILL, WHICH WOULD UNNECESSARILY REQUIRE LOCAL CALIFORNIANS TO
7 PAY FOR PLASTIC BAGS WHEN THE STATES AND ITS CITIZENS ARE
8 ALREADY IN A BUDGET DEFICIT. I BELIEVE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF
9 THIS BILL ARE COSTLY, BURDENSOME AND WOULD SET AN
10 INAPPROPRIATE IMPOSITION ON THOSE WHO ARE TRYING TO RECOVER
11 FROM RECESSION, ESPECIALLY HERE IN CALIFORNIA, WHEN THE
12 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS AT A RECORD HIGH. I BELIEVE THAT IN THIS
13 DAY AND TIME, IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO OFFER BILLS AND PROGRAMS
14 THAT WILL ASSIST PEOPLE RECOVERING AND AIDING THEM IN HELPING
15 TO ECONOMICALLY BUILD INVESTMENTS TO SUPPORT BUSINESSES IN
16 THEIR COMMUNITIES AND BY ADDING MORE COSTS TO ALREADY
17 ECONOMICALLY CHALLENGED COMMUNITIES, PARENTS AND THE COMMUNITY
18 IN WHOLE AND TO THE LOCAL CITIZENS OF LOS ANGELES WILL FURTHER
19 INCREASE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP.

20
21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** PLEASE SUMMARIZE.

22
23 **ZYRA MCCLOUD:** AND I'M SURPRISED HERE TODAY BECAUSE I FIND THAT
24 THIS-- I WROTE A LETTER TO MY SUPERVISOR, MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS,
25 WE WROTE MANY LETTERS, BUT I FIND THAT WE ARE ALREADY WALKING



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1 INTO A VERY BIASED SITUATION AND I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY
2 BECAUSE--

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MISS MCCLOUD. NEXT, I'D LIKE TO
5 ASK CHARLES BRISTER TO JOIN US AS WELL AS MARIA LOUISA VELA.
6 MISS UNION.

7

8 **VELMA UNION:** HI. I'M DR. VELMA UNION, I AM A COMMUNITY
9 ACTIVIST. I'M ALSO A PASTOR AND AN EDUCATOR AND SEMINARY
10 GRADUATE. I SERVE IN INNER CITY COMMUNITY BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE
11 I GREW UP, THAT'S WHERE I LOVE AND THAT'S WHERE I'M CALLED TO
12 BE. I'M THINKING THAT I HAVEN'T REALLY HEARD A LOT OF HARD
13 IMPACT AS TO WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IN OUR COMMUNITY IF THE
14 BAGS ARE BANNED. IT CAN GO EITHER WAY. I'VE HEARD ARGUMENTS
15 FOR, I'VE HEARD ARGUMENTS AGAINST, BUT I SORT OF ECHO THE
16 COMMENTS OF OUR SENIOR WHEN SHE SAID ARE WE MORE CONCERNED
17 ABOUT ENVIRONMENT? THERE'S CLEARLY AN ENVIRONMENTAL PUSH HERE
18 AND THOUGH WE HAVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AT HEART, WE ALSO
19 NEED TO BEAR IN MIND THE PEOPLE AND THE ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH
20 THEM, AND SO I WOULD LIKE FOR EVERYONE HERE TO CONSIDER, YES,
21 WE ALL HAVE SIDES, YES, WE ALL HAVE VIEWS, BUT WHERE'S THE
22 BALANCE, AND I DON'T SEE THAT HERE ANYWHERE. I'M ALSO A
23 RETIRED FINANCIAL CONSULTANT, SO I HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING TO
24 SOME DEGREE OF DEBITS AND CREDITS IN ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS AND I
25 DON'T SEE ANY OF THAT PRESENT HERE.



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1

2 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MAY WE HAVE MISS MCCLOUD.

3

4 **MELISSA MCCLOUD:** MELISSA MCCLOUD. GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE.

5 FIRST, I WANT TO SAY I FEEL VERY PRIVILEGED TO BE HERE AND TO
6 BE IN THE KNOW THAT THIS SESSION WAS ACTUALLY TAKING PLACE
7 REGARDING BANNING PLASTIC BAGS. I SEE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO
8 SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENT. I THINK IT'S VERY COMMENDABLE TO
9 SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENT, BUT WHAT I DON'T SEE ARE A LOT OF
10 PEOPLE HERE WHO WILL BE AFFECTED BY THIS BILL IN THE INNER
11 CITY COMMUNITIES, PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW THAT THEY'RE GOING TO
12 HAVE TO PAY 10 CENTS PER BAG WHEN THEY GO TO THE GROCERY
13 STORE. WE KNOW THAT WE ALREADY PAY HIGH COSTS FOR FOOD AND
14 PART OF THE HIGH COSTS FOR THE FOOD IS INCORPORATED FOR WHAT
15 WE PAY FOR THE PLASTIC BAGS. WHAT I HAVEN'T HEARD IS THAT THE
16 COST OF FOOD IS GOING TO BE DROPPED IF WE HAVE TO PAY 10 CENTS
17 FOR A BROWN PAPER BAG. I WOULD LIKE TO ASK IF THERE'S ANY WAY,
18 IF THIS BILL CAN BE REWRITTEN SO THAT IF PLASTIC BAGS HAVE TO
19 BE DONE AWAY WITH, THEN WE AS CONSUMERS DON'T HAVE TO PAY 10
20 CENTS PER BAG, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU HAVE SO MANY PEOPLE RIGHT
21 NOW WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED AND THE ECONOMY IS SUCH AS IT IS. THE
22 ONLY PEOPLE THAT I REALLY SEE BENEFITING FROM PAYING THE 10
23 CENT PER BAG ARE THE SUPERMARKETS, THE RETAILERS, THE PEOPLE
24 WHO WILL GET A VERY BIG FINANCIAL PUSH FROM THIS, SO I WOULD
25 LIKE TO IMPORE EVERYONE HERE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, TO



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1 PLEASE CONSIDER US PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY WHO RIGHT NOW ARE
2 TRYING JUST SO VERY HARD TO RECOVER IN THESE ECONOMIC TIMES.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU SO MUCH, MISS MCCLOUD. NEXT WE
5 HAVE CHRISTOPHER GALLO, OSIEL PALMA. MR. BRISTER? >CHARLES
6 BRISTER: YES, I COMMEND ALL OF THOSE WHO WANT TO CLEAN UP THE
7 ENVIRONMENT. HOWEVER, I DO OPPOSE BANNING PLASTIC BAGS. THE
8 BACTERIA FOUND WITH THE USE OF REUSABLE BAGS IS UNACCEPTABLE.
9 IN ADDITION, I OPPOSE CHARGING EXTRA FOR THE USE OF PAPER BAGS
10 BECAUSE IT WILL AFFECT THOSE WHO CANNOT AFFORD HIGHER GROCERY
11 EXPENSES. WE PAY PEOPLE NOW TO TURN IN PLASTIC BOTTLES,
12 ALUMINUM CANS, EVEN DEAD ANIMALS. YOU CAN EARN A LIVING DOING
13 THAT. WHY NOT PAY PEOPLE TO TURN IN PLASTIC BAGS? THAT WOULD
14 MAKE A LOT OF SENSE. IT WOULD HELP CUT DOWN ON UNEMPLOYMENT,
15 YOU'VE GOT PEOPLE Eeking OUT A LIVING PICKING UP OTHER REFUSE.
16 WHY NOT PAY THEM TO PICK UP PLASTIC BAGS? I THINK THAT WOULD
17 BE A MUCH WISER SOLUTION. POLITICALLY, I THINK IT WOULD BE
18 UNWISE TO PUT FORTH SOMETHING THAT WOULD FORCE CONSUMERS TO
19 BUY REUSABLE BAGS MADE IN CHINA COMING HERE FILLED WITH LEAD.
20 I DON'T THINK ANYBODY WOULD LIKE THAT, POLITICALLY. SO I WOULD
21 SUGGEST MY SOLUTION, YOU TAKE A LOOK AT IT. MR. YAROSLAVSKY
22 MENTIONED THAT THE BAGS WERE NOT RECYCLABLE DURING THE PRESS
23 CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, JUST LOOKING AT SOME OF THE BAGS OUT
24 THERE, I SAW THAT PLASTIC BAG RECYCLING DOT ORG, RAILEYS DOT



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1 ORG, THEY OFFER RECYCLING. SO THERE IS A METHOD OF RECYCLING
2 AND THAT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MISS VELA?

5

6 **MARIA LOUISA VELA:** GOOD MORNING. MARIA LOUISA VELA. MADAME
7 CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME THE
8 OPPORTUNITY TO TALK. I'M REPRESENTING L.A. METROPOLITAN
9 HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. WE ARE MISSION IS TO SUPPORT
10 SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS AND WE REALLY BELIEVE THAT THIS WILL
11 HURT THEM GREATLY. THE 10 CENTS IS LIKE A 10 CENTS, VERY LOW,
12 VERY CREATIVE, BUT I DO BELIEVE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION COSTS
13 AS WELL AS THE NIGHTMARE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS
14 ORDINANCE, JOBS LOSING, THE BOARD WOULD LOSE A LOT OF JOBS. I
15 DON'T KNOW IF YOU ARE CREATING A WATERFALL OF JOBS OR YOU ARE
16 CREATING NEW JOBS, BUT I THINK THAT ONE OF THE REASONS THAT
17 WITH ALL THE REPORTS ON THE BAGS MADE IN CHINA, PLEASE CREATE
18 U.S. JOBS, GIVE US U.S. WORKERS TO DO THEIR JOBS HERE AND GIVE
19 US QUALITY AND NOT GIVE THE COMPANIES FROM OTHER COUNTRIES
20 THAT BRING US MORE POLLUTED ITEMS THAT WE DON'T NEED. THANK
21 YOU VERY MUCH. PLEASE OPPOSE THIS ORDINANCE. THANK YOU.

22

23 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. MARIA AGUIRRE, LINDA JAY,
24 MICHAEL DOUGLAS. ARE YOU MR. GALLO?

25



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1 **CHRISTOPHER GALLO:** YES.

2

3 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR.

4

5 **CHRISTOPHER GALLO:** MY NAME IS CHRISTOPHER GALLO AND I'M HERE
6 ON BEHALF OF LA PLAYA MARKET IN INGLEWOOD. OUR MAIN CONCERN IS
7 THE ENVIRONMENT OBVIOUSLY, WE'RE A HUNDRED PERCENT BEHIND.
8 IT'S JUST THE FACT THAT 10 CENTS, WHICH IS NOT A LOT OF MONEY
9 TO US MAYBE IN HERE, BUT IN THE COMMUNITY THAT WE SERVE, THAT
10 10 CENTS ADDS UP, AND WHEN I THINK ABOUT WE DON'T HAVE THE
11 BUYING POWER ALONE, OUR PRODUCTS ALONE ARE MORE EXPENSIVE THAN
12 THE MAJOR CHAIN STORES. THE BAGS, WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE MAJOR
13 STORES START GIVING AWAY THE BAGS FOR FREE AND OUR STORE
14 BECOMES, "OH, WELL, A THING OF DO WE GO TO THIS STORE WITH
15 FREE BAGS OR THIS STORE WHERE WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE TO PAY
16 FOR THE BAGS?" SO I THINK THERE'S A LOT MORE ECONOMIC IMPACT
17 THAT'S GOING TO HAVE ON THE SMALL MARKETS LIKE US, AND OTHER
18 THINGS IS THAT PEOPLE THAT WE SERVING, THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE
19 ABLE TO COME IN AND SAY, "MAYBE I'M NOT GOING TO GET THIS
20 ADDITIONAL PRODUCT BECAUSE I HAVE TO PAY THAT ADDITIONAL 10
21 CENTS FOR THIS BAG." THEY'RE GOING TO BUY LESS FROM US AS
22 OPPOSED TO THE OTHER STORES WHERE THEY CAN POTENTIALLY NOT GET
23 CHARGED. I JUST SEE A LOT OF AREAS WHERE IT CAN BE IMPROVED
24 AND, YOU KNOW, THE 10 CENTS, THE SMALL BUSINESSES, IT'S JUST
25 GOING TO KILL US AND IF WE HAVE TO PROVIDE IT



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1

2 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR. MISS PALMA. [SPEAKING
3 SPANISH.]

4

5 **MARIA AGUIRRE (VIA INTERPRETER):** GOOD MORNING.

6

7 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** OH, MISS AGUIRRE. IS MR. PALMA IS NOT
8 HERE? YOU ARE? THEN YOU HAVE TO COME UP WHEN WE CALL YOU.
9 [SPEAKING SPANISH.] GO AHEAD, MISS AGUIRRE

10

11 **MARIA AGUIRRE (VIA INTERPRETER):** I'M HERE TO TELL YOU I'M
12 AGAINST THE BAN OF THE PLASTIC BAGS. I HAVE BEEN WORKING 23
13 YEARS AND THIS IS HOW I SUPPORT MY FAMILY. THE COMPANY WHERE I
14 WORK, THERE'S A LOT OF SINGLE MOTHERS. IF THEY CLOSE ALL THE
15 COMPANIES, WHAT IS THE SINGLE MOTHER SUPPOSED TO BE DOING? GO
16 TO WELFARE? WE NEED OUR JOBS. THANK YOU.

17

18 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. THAT WAS MARIA AGUIRRE. LINDA
19 JAY.

20

21 **LINDA JAY:** YES. MY NAME IS LINDA JAY. I'M HERE REPRESENTING
22 COMMUNITY CONSTRUCTION TRAINING CENTER. I'M A COMMUNITY
23 ACTIVIST AND I'D LIKE TO CUT TO THE CHASE AND JUST SAY THIS
24 ORDINANCE IS A FARCE, IS SIMPLY A FARCE. AS SUCH, THE RICH IS
25 GETTING RICHER. IT'S AN ATTEMPT ON BIG BUSINESSES AND THE



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1 WEALTHY TO ONCE AGAIN FIND WAYS TO MILK THE COMMUNITY AND ALL
2 THAT IS LEFT SUCH AS RECYCLING, PLASTIC THAT IS NOT PROVIDING
3 JOBS AND ADDING MONEY TO HOUSEHOLDS IN OUR COMMUNITY. IT WILL
4 CAUSE YOU, THE SUPERVISORS, ALL OF YOU, TO TAX MORE OF THE
5 TAXPAYERS' MONEY. FOR THAT, MONEY THAT WE DON'T HAVE, MONEY
6 THAT IS GOING TO PROVIDE US WITH, LIKE I SAID EARLIER, JOBS.
7 THIS RECYCLING HAS, SINCE 2007 TO 2009, HAS INCREASED 60
8 PERCENT. I'D LIKE TO SAY IN CLOSING THAT I ASK YOU TO VOTE IT
9 DOWN. WE DON'T NEED THIS ORDINANCE. PLEASE BAN IT. THANK YOU.

10

11 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU SO MUCH. SENOR PALMA.

12

13 **OSIEL PALMA (VIA INTERPRETER):** GOOD MORNING. [OVERLAPPING
14 VOICES.]

15

16 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** [SPEAKING SPANISH.]

17

18 **OSIEL PALMA (VIA INTERPRETER):** I AM ONE OF THE EMPLOYEES THAT
19 WILL END UP ON THE STREETS.

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** [SPEAKING SPANISH.]

22

23 **OSIEL PALMA (VIA INTERPRETER):** I AM ONE OF THE EMPLOYEES WHO
24 WILL END UP WITHOUT A JOB IN THE STREETS. [OVERLAPPING
25 VOICES.] THEY ALSO GO TO A SUPERMARKET AND THEY ALSO USE THE



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1 PLASTIC BAGS. WE ALL USE THEM. THERE'S MORE IMPORTANT THINGS
2 THAT YOU SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT. THERE WILL BE A LOT OF
3 PEOPLE, UNEMPLOYMENT ON THE STREETS AND STEALING _____
4 PEOPLE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MR. DOUGLAS? COULD WE ALSO HAVE
7 WALTER BECKTEL JOIN US. THAT IS OUR LAST SPEAKER ON THE
8 OPPOSITION. MR. DOUGLAS.

9

10 **MICHAEL DOUGLAS:** OKAY. MY POSITION ON THIS IS ARE WE GOING TO
11 BE ABLE TO CREATE ANY EDUCATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE SO THEY'LL
12 KNOW WHAT TYPE OF BAGS TO USE AND ARE WE GOING TO BAN THE
13 IMPORT OF LEAD BAGS FROM OVERSEAS. IF THIS ORDINANCE IS GOING
14 TO HELP BRING THE BUDGET DOWN AND EDUCATE OUR PEOPLE SO THAT
15 WE CAN CATCH UP WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD BECAUSE, LET'S FACE
16 IT, THEY'VE ALREADY BANNED THE BAGS IN OTHER COUNTRIES. WE
17 WERE THE LAST TO GET ON THE BOAT AND WE'RE, AS MY MOM WOULD
18 SAY, FIDDLE FARTING AROUND WITH THE IDEA OF HOW TO DO IT.
19 LET'S BE EFFECTIVE, LET'S MAKE SOME MONEY SO WE CAN CLOSE THE
20 BUDGET AND GET THE GAP TAKEN CARE OF, BECAUSE IF THESE PEOPLE
21 ARE GOING TO GO AHEAD AND LET US DO OR NOT DO WITH THE BAGS,
22 WE CAN'T CHARGE PEOPLE FOR IT. THEY ALREADY CAN'T AFFORD IT,
23 SO MY POSITION IS, WHAT IS IT IN THIS HERE BILL THAT'S GOING
24 TO HELP BUILD THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES AND THE COMMUNITY AND



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1 CREATE JOBS FOR THE YOUTH, BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE IT'S AT?

2 THAT'S MY POSITION. THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MR. BECKTEL.

5

6 **WALTER BECKTEL:** OKAY, I'M MR. BECKTEL. I CAME UP HERE LAST
7 WEEK, I SPOKE ABOUT THE SAME THING. APPARENTLY I'M NOT THE
8 ONLY ONE THAT FEELS THIS WAY. THIS IS STUPID. I MEAN, YOU
9 PEOPLE HAVE BAGS THAT DO RECYCLE. I STILL HAVE A BAG FROM
10 MONTGOMERY WARD THAT WAS MADE IN 1996 AND I SHOULD BRING IT IN
11 HERE AND SHOW YOU BECAUSE I REACH UP AND I CAN TAKE IT AND I
12 CAN GRAB IT AND CRUSH IT AND IT WILL CRUMBLE BECAUSE IT WAS
13 MADE AS A BIODEGRADABLE BAG. IT WAS NO PROBLEM BACK THEN. I
14 DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S WRONG. YOU HAVE BIODEGRADABLE BAGS
15 ALREADY, YOU JUST DON'T WANT TO IMPLEMENT AND FORCE THESE
16 PEOPLE TO USE IT. SUN CHIPS, LIKE I ALREADY TOLD YOU, HAS HAD
17 A BAG THAT'S BIODEGRADABLE, BUT THEY DON'T WANT TO USE IT
18 BECAUSE IT MADE SOME NOISE. I THINK THE PROBLEM IS, JUST LIKE
19 WHAT THEY'VE BEEN SAYING ON THE NEWS, SOMEBODY WANTS TO MAKE
20 SOME MONEY ON THIS THING BY CHARGING US TAX. IT DOESN'T HAVE
21 ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE FACT WHETHER OR NOT YOU HAVE
22 BIODEGRADABLE BAGS. THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE. THANK YOU.

23

24 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MR. BECKTEL. ALL RIGHT. THAT
25 CONCLUDES THE OPPOSITION. AGAIN, THERE ARE A COUPLE OF PEOPLE



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1 WHO WISH TO SPEAK IN FAVOR THAT DIDN'T AGREE, BUT I WANT TO
2 COMMEND SHELLY BERGER. SHE HAS BROUGHT SOME PETITIONS THAT
3 COME FROM THE GREEN TEAM AND FELLOW STUDENTS AT RECTORS SCHOOL
4 FOR GIRLS. "WE'D WOULD LIKE TO WRITE IN STRONG SUPPORT OF
5 DRAFTING THE SINGLE USE BAG, WE BELIEVE IT'S IMPORTANT TO PUT
6 A BAN ON THE SIX BILLION SINGLE USE BAGS THAT PEOPLE OF L.A.
7 ARE USING EVERY SINGLE DAY. WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THESE BAGS
8 DON'T END UP IN THE SEWERS, LANDFILLS AND OCEANS. WE ARE THE
9 FUTURE GENERATION OF KIDS TRYING TO MAKE A CHANGE IN OUR CITY
10 OR COUNTRY. AND FINALLY, OUR WORLD, SO PLEASE TAKE OUR LETTER
11 INTO STRONG CONSIDERATION." WE WELL PASS THESE OUT, AND I'M
12 GOING TO ASK JIM CRAIG TO JOIN US AND RICH EIDEN, IF THEY
13 COULD COME UP. THE PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T GET TO SPEAK, AND I THANK
14 THEM FOR JOINING US HERE IS ANDY KELLER-- THEY CAN STAND IF
15 THEY LIKE-- ANDY SHRADER, DAVID WEESHOOFF, IDA TALALLA, JAMES
16 ALAMILLO, JAMES CRAIG, JASON LI, JEFF FERRO, JENNIE ROMER,
17 MARK GOLD, AGAIN, MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS, MERRILL BARR, RICK
18 EIDEN, WILLY RODRIGUEZ, ZACK GOLD, JIM LAMM, SHELLEY BERGER,
19 JOHNNY PAPPAS, EVELINE BRAVO, JACY BOLDEN, ANDREW BARRERA.
20 THANK YOU SO MUCH. WE NEED TO GET TO OUR HEARING SO WE CAN
21 MAKE A DECISION OR NOT ON THIS. MR. CRAIG.

22

23 **JIM CRAIG:** HI. I'M JIM CRAIG, I'M THE DIRECTOR OF GREEN VETS
24 L.A. AND I'M A SMALL BUSINESSMAN IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. I'D
25 LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT LOS ANGELES JOBS. MY GROUP SEWS THE



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1 BAGS HERE IN LOS ANGELES IN AMERICA. SEWING IS A LABOR-
2 INTENSIVE JOB, SO LET'S CREATE SOME AMERICAN JOBS HERE IN LOS
3 ANGELES. IF YOU ORDER 100,000 BAGS, IT WILL BE TAKE THE
4 PLASTIC INDUSTRY ONE OR TWO EMPLOYEES, ONE OR TWO OPERATORS
5 ABOUT ONE OR TWO DAYS OF LABOR TO MANUFACTURER THOSE HUNDRED
6 THOUSAND BAGS. IF YOU GIVE US AN ORDER FOR 100,000 BAGS, YOU
7 WILL BE CREATING JOBS, YOU'LL BE CREATING EMPLOYMENT FOR 20
8 SEWING OPERATORS RIGHT HERE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, JOBS FOR AN
9 ENTIRE YEAR. LET'S CREATE JOBS IN L.A.. THE GARMENT DISTRICT
10 IS AN INDUSTRY THAT IS DYING AND FALLING APART. IF WE PASS THE
11 BAN FOR EVERY ONE JOB THAT COULD BE LOST, 100 JOBS COULD BE
12 GAINED BY PASSING THE BAN TO PRODUCE OUR BAGS.

13

14 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MR. EDIEN.

15

16 **RICK EIDEN:** YES. THANK YOU, BOARD MEMBERS. RICK EIDEN FROM
17 UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 324. I'M HERE
18 REPRESENTING OUR MEMBERS WHO WORK AT THE RETAIL FOOD AND
19 RETAIL DRUGSTORES. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT, ALONG WITH THE ENTIRE
20 LABOR UNION, STRONGLY IN SUPPORT OF THIS ORDINANCE. I JUST
21 WANT TO LET YOU KNOW THE LABOR MOVEMENT UNDERSTANDS THE FUTURE
22 OF OUR WORK IS GOING TO BE IN GREEN JOBS AND REUSABLE BAGS ARE
23 PART OF THAT. THE U.F.C.W. JUST PURCHASED 200,000 REUSABLE
24 BAGS MADE HERE IN CALIFORNIA TO GIVE OUT TO THE COMMUNITY FOR
25 FREE TO HELP EASE THE STRESS ON OUR ENVIRONMENT. WE STRONGLY



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1 SUPPORT THIS, WE APPLAUD THIS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO TAKE
2 THIS ON. WE STRONGLY SUPPORTED A.B.1998 AND WE STRONGLY
3 ENCOURAGE YOU. ALONG WITH THAT, I HAVE PETITIONS AND LETTERS
4 FROM VARIOUS COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT LOS ANGELES COUNTY WHO
5 ALSO SUPPORT THIS ORDINANCE. THANK YOU.

6

7 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MR. EIDEN, THANK YOU MR. CRAIG.
8 ALL RIGHT. THAT CONCLUDES THOSE IN OPPOSITION AND THOSE IN
9 FAVOR, BUT WE HAVE ANOTHER CATEGORY, THOSE WHO ARE NOT TAKING
10 A POSITION BUT WISH TO SPEAK. ARNOLD SACHS, GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL
11 AND MATTHEW DODSON, IF THEY'D JOIN US. PLEASE PROCEED, SIR.

12

13 **MATTHEW DODSON:** GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS MATTHEW DODSON, I'M
14 HERE REPRESENTING THE CALIFORNIA GROCERS ASSOCIATION. WE ARE
15 AN ASSOCIATION THAT REPRESENTS ABOUT 500 GROCERS THROUGHOUT
16 THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, INCLUDING MAJOR GROCERS, NATIONAL
17 CHAINS, INDEPENDENT REGIONAL GROCERS AS WELL AS MOM AND POP
18 GROCERS. ABOUT A YEAR AGO, OUR ASSOCIATION DECIDED THAT THE
19 STATUS QUO WAS NOT GOING TO WORK. WE STARTED WORKING WITH THE
20 ASSEMBLY MEMBER WHO WAS UP HERE BRIEFLY TALKING ABOUT A.B.1998
21 AND WE ACTIVELY WORKED TO TRY TO GET THE PASSAGE OF THAT BILL.
22 UNFORTUNATELY, THE LEGISLATURE IN ITS WISDOM DECIDED NOT TO DO
23 THAT, AND AT THE SAME TIME, THE COUNTY, OVER MANY MONTHS OF
24 EFFORT AND REACHING OUT TO STAKEHOLDERS, TALKED WITH GROCERS,
25 TALKED WITH ENVIRONMENTALISTS, TALKED WITH THE PLASTICS



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1 INDUSTRY AND EVERYONE ELSE GOT INPUT FROM THEM. THEY DECIDED
2 TO LOOK AT A.B.1998 AS A MODEL TO MOVE FORWARD ON. WE BELIEVE
3 THAT THEY'RE MEETING THAT STANDARD AND WE COMMEND THE COUNTY
4 FOR MOVING FORWARD ON THIS. WE HOPE THAT WHEN THIS PASSES,
5 THAT OUR INDUSTRY STANDS READY TO WORK TO IMPLEMENT THIS AND
6 ONE MORE COMMENT, IF I CAN, THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF COMMENTS
7 TODAY ABOUT REUSABLE BAGS AND HOW DANGEROUS THEY ARE. IT'S
8 HARD FOR ME TO IMAGINE THAT CARRYING AROUND A REUSABLE BAG IS
9 GOING TO CAUSE SO MUCH HARM. I THINK WHEN ALL OF THE FACTS ARE
10 LAID BARE, REUSABLE BAGS IS WHERE WE WANT TO BE AND WE THINK
11 THAT THE COUNTY IS DOING A GOOD JOB MOVING FORWARD ON THIS.
12 GOOD LUCK ON THIS. THANK YOU.

13

14 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU.

15

16 **ARNOLD SACHS:** THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING. ARNOLD SACHS. THIS IS
17 LIKE SITTING ON A FENCE POST BECAUSE THERE'S GOOD TO BOTH
18 SIDES. WHEN I WAS IN THE '70S, IT WAS ALL ABOUT SAVING THE
19 TREES, USE PLASTIC. NOW IT'S SAVE-- DON'T SAVE TREES, DON'T
20 USE PLASTIC. I THINK IT'S UNFAIR TO PENALIZE PEOPLE FOR
21 WANTING TO GET PAPER BAGS BUT NOT REWARDING PEOPLE FOR USING
22 PLASTIC BAGS, FOR BRINGING THEIR OWN PLASTIC BAGS IN. IF
23 YOU'RE WILLING TO PENALIZE THEM AND CHARGE THEM 10 CENTS FOR A
24 FEE TO GET A PAPER BAG, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO REWARD THEM BY
25 GIVING THEM TWO CENTS FOR EACH PLASTIC BAG. THE ACCOUNTING MAY



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1 BE DIFFICULT, BUT THAT WOULD BE AN IMPETUS TO SAVE AND REUSE
2 PLASTIC BAGS AND NOT TO LET THEM GO INTO LANDFILLS. YOU NEED
3 TO HAVE A CARROT ON BOTH ENDS OF THE STICK. THANK YOU.

4

5 **DR. GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL:** GOOD MORNING, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.
6 DR. GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL. I'M TRULY CONCERNED WHEN I SEE THE
7 ENERGY SPENT TODAY ON DECIDING ON PLASTIC BAGS VERSUS NO
8 PLASTIC BAG AND THAT WE ARE POSTPONING S-1 AND S-2, CRUCIAL
9 ISSUES AND LACK OF MONEY FOR THE BUDGET ON HEALTHCARE. BUT
10 WHEN I LOOK AT THE BAGS AND THE REUSABLE BAG, BEATING IN THE
11 HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY, I SHIVER. I SEE THOSE DIRTY BAGS COMING
12 BACK AND WHEN THOSE PEOPLE ARE IN FRONT OF ME WITH THEIR
13 DIRTY, ICKY BAG AND I SEE MANY TIME IN THE FLIP FLOP WITH BIG
14 FUNGUS ON THEIR TOE, IT REPULSE ME TO GET MY GROCERIES ON THE
15 SAME COUNTER AS THOSE INDIVIDUALS. RESEARCH PROVES THAT AT
16 LEAST 20 PERCENT HAVE E. COLI ON THOSE HAVE BEEN DONE AND I
17 THINK THAT IT'S A POOR WAY. THE COUNTY WAS PUSHING FOR LETTER
18 A AND B AND SO ON, FOR RESTAURANTS AND PUSHING FOR CLEANLINESS
19 SHOULD USE THE SAME STANDARD.

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. WE ALSO RECEIVED A LETTER FROM
22 THE CITY OF CULVER CITY SUPPORTING THIS POSITION AS WELL FROM
23 ITS MAYOR, CHRISTOPHER ARMENTA, AND WE RECEIVED, AGAIN, A
24 PETITION FROM A LOT OF FOLKS IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
25 SUPPORTING THE BAN, MAYBE THE NEXT STEP, HOPEFULLY IF WE'RE



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1 SUCCESSFUL HERE, WE MOVE ON TO THE CITY TO KEEP THIS BAN
2 GOING. ALL RIGHT. THAT CONCLUDES ALL OF OUR PUBLIC TESTIMONY.
3 SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY HAS ASKED TO SPEAK.

4

5 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR. FIRST OF ALL, LET
6 ME THANK THE STAFF FOR AN EXCELLENT JOB. THIS IS REALLY A
7 HERCULEAN TASK OF THIS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND A LOT
8 OF COMPETING INTERESTS AND ISSUES AND I THINK PUBLIC WORKS
9 DEPARTMENT AND THE PEOPLE WHO WORKED ON THIS DID AN
10 OUTSTANDING JOB AND VERY EASY TO UNDERSTAND CONSIDERING THE
11 COMPLEXITY OF THE ISSUE. ALSO WANT TO THANK THE COUNTY COUNSEL
12 FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE THROUGHOUT THIS PROCESS IN HELPING US
13 UNDERSTAND, YOU KNOW, HOW FAR WE CAN GO, HOW FAR WE COULDN'T
14 GO, THE IMPLICATIONS OF PROP 26, AND AGAIN, I THINK THAT YOUR
15 LAWYERS ON THIS ONE DID A GREAT JOB HELPING US TO FEEL
16 CONFIDENCE GOING FORWARD. THIS IS A DAY THAT WE DIDN'T WANT TO
17 HAVE. AS THE CHAIR SAID EARLIER TODAY, WE DIDN'T WANT TO HAVE
18 TO PASS A COUNTY-WIDE ORDINANCE. WE WANTED ASSEMBLYWOMAN
19 BROWNLEY'S STATE LAW TO PASS STATEWIDE TO HAVE A UNIFORM STATE
20 LAW THAT APPLIED IN EUREKA, AS IT WOULD APPLY IN CHULA VISTA
21 AND EVERYONE WOULD KNOW WHAT THE RULES WERE. THE CHEMICAL AND
22 PLASTIC INDUSTRY SPENT MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO KILL
23 ASSEMBLYWOMAN BROWNLEY'S BILL, AND WE WARNED AT THE TIME,
24 SEVERAL OF THE MEMBERS OF THIS BOARD WARNED AT THE TIME AND
25 OTHER LOCAL OFFICIALS, THAT IF THE STATEWIDE BAN DIDN'T PASS,



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1 THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE ON THE
2 ISSUE THEMSELVES, AND THAT'S WHY TODAY, NOVEMBER 16TH, JUST A
3 COUPLE OF MONTHS AFTER THE DEFEAT OF A.B.1998, WE'RE DOING
4 JUST THAT IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY. WHY ARE WE DOING THIS? I
5 THINK THE TESTIMONY FROM THE PUBLIC HAS SAID IT ALL. PLASTIC
6 BAGS ARE A POLLUTANT, THEY POLLUTE THE URBAN LANDSCAPE. THEY
7 ARE WHAT WE CALL IN OUR COUNTY URBAN TUMBLE WEED. THESE BAGS
8 POLLUTE EVERY SCHOOL YARD, EVERY RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD,
9 STREETS, HIGHWAYS, SIDEWALKS, AND THEY ARE A BLIGHT ON THE
10 URBAN COMMUNITIES THAT WE LIVE IN, AND IN MANY OF THE
11 COMMUNITIES WHICH HAVE BLIGHTS THAT ARE BEYOND THEIR CONTROL,
12 THIS IS WITHIN OUR CONTROL AND WE CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.
13 AND THE SECOND REASON IS THAT THESE BAGS END UP IN OUR STORM
14 DRAIN SYSTEM, MANY OF THEM, AND THEY END UP IN OUR OCEAN AND
15 THEY END UP THREATENING RARE VALUABLE MARINE LIFE IN OUR OCEAN
16 AND DEGRADING ONE OF THIS COUNTRY'S GREAT ENVIRONMENTAL AND
17 ECONOMIC RESOURCES OF THE PACIFIC COAST OF OUR REGION. SO WHEN
18 WE TALK ABOUT JOBS, LOOK AT IT A LITTLE MORE BROADLY, WE HAVE
19 BEEN TRYING AND HEAL THE BAY HAS BEEN TRYING, CERTAINLY AT THE
20 GRASSROOTS LEVEL, TO TRY TO PROTECT THE INCREDIBLE ECONOMIC
21 RESOURCE THAT OUR SHORELINE IS, BOTH RECREATIONALLY, BUSINESS-
22 WISE, FISHING-WISE, TRIED TO PROTECT THAT RESOURCE AND NOT
23 PROTECTING THAT RESOURCE, ALLOWING IT TO DEGRADE ALSO
24 THREATENS JOBS. SO AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE DO WHAT WE THINK
25 IS RIGHT AND WHAT'S RIGHT IS TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION, NOT



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1 PART OF THE POLLUTION, AND THAT'S WHAT WE'RE HERE DOING TODAY.
2 I HOPE, MADAME CHAIR, THAT THIS WILL BE A SHORT-LIVED
3 ORDINANCE. I HOPE THAT WHEN WE APPROVE THIS AND SOME OF THE 88
4 CITIES WITHIN THE COUNTY WILL SIGN ONTO THIS ORDINANCE BECAUSE
5 THIS ORDINANCE ONLY APPLIES IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF THE
6 COUNTY, BUT THE 88 CITIES OF THE COUNTY CAN BUY INTO THIS
7 ORDINANCE BY SIMPLY ADOPTING, CERTIFYING THE SAME E.I.R., I
8 THINK THE E.I.R. APPLIES TO ALL THE CITIES, IT'S A COUNTY-WIDE
9 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND ALL THEY HAVE TO DO IS APPROVE
10 THIS ORDINANCE FOR THEIR OWN CITIES AS THEY DID WITH THE
11 RESTAURANT GRADING SYSTEM AND OTHER MEASURES THAT WE'VE
12 PASSED. THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES IS ACTIVELY MOVING IN THAT
13 DIRECTION. YOU JUST READ THE LETTER FROM CULVER CITY. THERE
14 ARE OTHER CITIES IN THE COUNTY THAT ARE PREPARED TO DO THAT,
15 SO I HOPE THAT THE MAJORITY, IF NOT ALL OF THE CITIES OF L.A.
16 COUNTY WILL PARTICIPATE IN THIS BAN. BUT I ALSO HOPE THAT IT
17 WILL BRING THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY AND THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY TO
18 THEIR SENSES AND GO BACK TO SACRAMENTO IN GOOD FAITH, WORK
19 WITH ASSEMBLYWOMAN BROWNLEY AND HER COLLEAGUES TO PASS A
20 STATEWIDE LAW WHICH WILL BE THE SAME IN EVERY CITY AND COUNTY
21 IN CALIFORNIA BECAUSE THE SPECTER OF WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN
22 HERE, WE'LL HAVE ONE KIND OF LAW IN LOS ANGELES, THERE WILL BE
23 ANOTHER ONE IN SAN FRANCISCO, A DIFFERENT ONE IN PLUMUS
24 COUNTY, AND THAT WILL DRIVE THE PEOPLE IN BUSINESS CRAZY, AS
25 WELL AS THE CUSTOMERS CRAZY BECAUSE THEY WON'T KNOW, DEPENDING



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1 ON WHICH COUNTY THEY ARE, WHAT THE RULES ARE, AND THAT'S WHAT
2 WE WERE TRYING TO AVOID. BUT LOS ANGELES COUNTY IS THE BIGGEST
3 COUNTY IN THE STATE, BIGGEST COUNTY IN THE COUNTRY. IF WE WERE
4 OUR OWN STATE, WE'D BE THE 8TH LARGEST STATE IN THE UNION,
5 BIGGER THAN MICHIGAN, SO WHEN WE PASS AN ORDINANCE OF THIS
6 TYPE, OF ANY TYPE, THE REST OF THE STATE HAS TO TAKE NOTICE,
7 AND I HOPE-- AND EVEN IF THEY DON'T TAKE NOTICE, AT LEAST THE
8 KNOWLEDGE THAT LOS ANGELES COUNTY HAS STEPPED INTO THE BREACH
9 WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN L.A. COUNTY. WE CAN DO SOMETHING
10 HERE AND WE CAN DO A LOT HERE BECAUSE WE ARE 10-1/2 MILLION
11 PEOPLE. BILLIONS OF PLASTIC BAGS EVERY YEAR AND WE CAN DO
12 SOMETHING ABOUT THAT, EVEN IF NOBODY ELSE DOES A SINGLE
13 SOLITARY THING, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BUT MY HOPE IS THAT
14 WE WILL SEE OTHER CITIES AND COUNTIES JOIN THE EFFORT AND THAT
15 THIS WILL PROMOTE A MORE RATIONAL STATEWIDE SOLUTION IN
16 SACRAMENTO, SO I'M GOING TO SUPPORT THIS, AND AGAIN, THANK THE
17 STAFF FOR BRINGING US A GOOD WORK PRODUCT.

18
19 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** VERY GOOD. THANK YOU. SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-
20 THOMAS.

21
22 **SUP. RIDLEY-THOMAS:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MADAME CHAIR. JUST A
23 COUPLE OF QUESTIONS. ONE THAT I'M SURE CONCERNS ALL OF US, THE
24 CLAIM OF A DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES. IT WAS
25 MY UNDERSTANDING THAT AN ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT AND ANALYSIS



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1 WAS DONE AND I WOULD LIKE STAFF TO ADDRESS THEMSELVES TO THAT
2 IN SPECIFIC WAYS, PLEASE.

3

4 **KOBE SKY:** AND JUST TO HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT I MENTIONED
5 VERY BRIEFLY IN MY EARLY PRESENTATION, THAT THE SOCIOECONOMIC
6 STUDY HAD FOUND THAT BECAUSE OUR ORDINANCE DOES INCLUDE THE 10
7 CENT CHARGE, NOT ONLY DO CONSUMERS HAVE THE OPTION OF
8 COMPLETELY AVOIDING ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS SIMPLY BY REFUSING A
9 BAG OR BRINGING A REUSABLE BAG, BUT THAT BASED ON STUDIES FROM
10 AROUND THE WORLD IN WASHINGTON, D.C. AND IN OTHER PLACES WHERE
11 FEES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED, WE EXPECT THAT MOST OF THE
12 CONSUMERS IN A VAST MAJORITY OF LOW INCOME COMMUNITY RESIDENTS
13 WOULD AVOID PAYING 10 CENTS AND THERE WOULD BE NEGLIGIBLE
14 IMPACT ON LOWER INCOME COMMUNITIES AND SMALLER BUSINESSES.

15

16 **SUP. RIDLEY-THOMAS:** ALL RIGHT. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT DUE
17 DILIGENCE HAS BEEN DONE WITH RESPECT TO THAT MATTER BUT I
18 WOULD THINK IT APPROPRIATE TO CONTINUE TO MONITOR THAT AS
19 DEEMED APPROPRIATE, MADAME CHAIR. WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I'D
20 LIKE TO READ IN AMENDMENT, I THINK THE ISSUE RAISED WITH
21 RESPECT TO LEAD LEVELS AND REUSABLE BAGS IS HARDLY AN
22 INCONSEQUENTIAL ONE. THE RECORD IS CLEAR WITH RESPECT TO MY
23 ADVOCACY, WITH RESPECT TO THE ISSUE OF LEAD IN A VARIETY OF
24 PLACES IN OUR ENVIRONMENT, WHETHER IT BE IN PAINT IN HOMES OR
25 WHETHER IT BE IN WATER, MERCURY ISSUES AND THE LIKE. THE



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1 ORDINANCE SEEMS TO ME TO BE WORTHY OF BEING TIGHTENED UP SO IT
2 WOULD SEEM THAT IT'S APPROPRIATE IN THE ORDINANCE TO BAN
3 PLASTIC BAGS THAT IS BEFORE THE BOARD TODAY, A VARIETY OF
4 CRITERIA IS USED TO DEFINE THE QUALITIES OF A REUSABLE BAG,
5 SPECIFICALLY THE DEFINITION INCLUDES CRITERIA THAT WOULD LIMIT
6 THE USE OF LEAD, THE OTHER TOXINS, AND I WANT TO THEN MOVE
7 THAT WE DIRECT COUNTY COUNSEL TO CLARIFY THE LANGUAGE OF THE
8 ORDINANCE AS FOLLOWS: REUSABLE BAGS SHOULD NOT CONTAIN LEAD
9 LEVELS-- LEVELS OF LEAD AND OTHER TOXICS AS DEFINED BY
10 APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS FOR
11 PACKAGING OR REUSABLE BAGS, I WOULD SO MOVE AND THEN ATTEMPT
12 TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR ORDINANCE IS CONSISTENT WITH THE RANGE
13 OF STANDARDS THAT WE KNOW ARE ACCEPTABLE AND ARE APPROPRIATE.
14 MY FINAL POINT WOULD BE THAT ENTREPRENEURSHIP BEING WHAT IT
15 IS, I WOULDN'T WANT TO ENCOURAGE FOCUS ON THE ECONOMY WITH
16 RESPECT TO GREEN JOBS, WITH RESPECT TO INDIGENOUS ACTIVITY
17 THAT GOES ON CONSISTENT WITH THE GREENING OF OUR COMMUNITIES.
18 THIS IS A STEP IN THAT DIRECTION AND I THINK IT OUGHT TO BE
19 ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS IS COUNTY-WIDE, CAPTURING THE INTEREST,
20 THE SENTIMENTS, THE PERSPECTIVES OF MEMBERS OF THIS BOARD WHO
21 REPRESENT A WIDE VARIETY OF CONSTITUENTS, BUSINESS INTERESTS,
22 COMMUNITY INTERESTS, YOU NAME THOSE INTERESTS. TO THE EXTENT
23 THAT SUCH CONSENSUS HAS EVOLVED, IT OUGHT TO SPEAK VOLUMES AS
24 TO WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE AN ORDINANCE WHOSE TIME HAS COME. I
25 WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE BY SUPERVISOR



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1 MOLINA, SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY, PRIOR TO MY ARRIVAL TO THE
2 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. THEIR WORK SHOULD BE APPROPRIATELY
3 RECOGNIZED AND I AM GLAD TO DO SO AND PREPARED TO VOTE
4 AFFIRMATIVELY WITH RESPECT TO THE MATTER BEFORE US.

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. I ACCEPT YOUR MOTION ON THIS. I
7 GUESS THAT ADDS TO THE CLARIFICATION. WE ALSO HAVE ANOTHER
8 MOTION THAT IS ASKING THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, I THINK
9 THIS ONE WILL BE TREATED SEPARATELY, THOUGH, THAT WE DIRECT
10 THEM, BUT THE OTHER MOTION BY SUPERVISOR KNABE, I'D LIKE TO
11 ACCEPT THAT AS ALSO A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT AND THAT IT BASICALLY
12 IS TO REVISE THE DEFINITION OF REUSABLE BAGS IN THE PROPOSED
13 ORDINANCE TO ALSO INCLUDE A.B.1998'S LANGUAGE THAT THE
14 REUSABLE BAG CAN BE MADE FROM MATERIAL THAT CAN BE CLEANED OR
15 DISINFECTED, THEREBY NOT EXCLUDING LOCAL MANUFACTURERS OF
16 REUSABLE CARRY OUT BAGS. THE REUSABLE BAG BAG DEFINITION
17 SHOULD SAY THE BAGS SHOULD BE MADE FROM MATERIALS THAT EITHER
18 MACHINE WASHABLE, THAT CAN BE CLEANED OR DISINFECTED, WHICH
19 WOULD INCLUDE THESE BAGS AS WELL, THAT CAN BE UTILIZED, BUT WE
20 ARE GOING TO BE BANNING THESE THINGS. SO I THINK THAT THERE'S
21 BEEN AN AWFUL LOT OF WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE BY THE DEPARTMENT
22 AND A LOT OF THE ADVOCATES AS WELL. I WANT TO THANK THEM ALL
23 FOR BEING A PART OF IT. IT'S LONG IN COMING. AS WE STATED
24 BEFORE, THIS WOULD BE MUCH BETTER IF IT WERE DONE STATEWIDE,
25 HAVE UNIFORMITY ACROSS THE BOARD. THIS IS A MAJOR UNDERTAKING



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1 FOR L.A. COUNTY AND I'M PROUD. THE WAVE IS BEGINNING HERE AND
2 HOPEFULLY YOU'LL MOVE ALL THE WAY UP TO SACRAMENTO AND
3 ASSEMBLYWOMAN, YOU WILL BE SUCCESSFUL THE NEXT TIME YOU
4 INTRODUCE THIS BILL BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A LOT OF
5 ADVOCATES HERE THROUGHOUT L.A. COUNTY AND WE HOPE OUR CITIES
6 WILL FOLLOW. AGAIN, WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH ALL OF YOU
7 AS WE CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT THIS ORDINANCE, SO THIS ORDINANCE
8 IS BEFORE US, AND SO I SO MOVE. SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR
9 YAROSLAVSKY.

10

11 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** CAN I JUST ASK ONE TECHNICAL QUESTION?

12

13 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SURE.

14

15 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** THE AMENDMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE, I TAKE
16 IT, WILL BE ABLE TO BE DONE--

17

18 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WITHIN THE ORDINANCE, YES.

19

20 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** SO WE ARE VOTING ON A FIRST READING
21 ORDINANCE TODAY.

22

23 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** YES.

24



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1 **ANDREA ORDIN, COUNSEL:** YOU'RE FIRST GOING TO VOTE ON THE
2 ORDINANCE WITH THE FIRST AMENDMENT IN IT, WHICH IS THE DON
3 KNABE AMENDMENT, WHICH IS MADE FROM A MATERIAL THAT CAN BE
4 CLEANED OR DISINFECTED, AND THEN THE SECOND VOTE WILL BE ON
5 THE MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AMENDMENT AS DEFINED BY APPLICABLE
6 STATE AND FEDERAL STANDARDS.

7

8 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** THAT WILL NOT REQUIRE-- THAT'S A
9 NONSUBSTANTIVE-- NOT MEANINGFUL IN ANY TEXTUAL SENSE SO WE
10 DON'T HAVE TO COME BACK AND START OVER. THANK YOU.

11

12 **ANDREA ORDIN, COUNSEL:** NO, WE DO NOT.

13

14 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** THANK YOU.

15

16 **ANDREA ORDIN, COUNSEL:** SHOULD WE CLOSE THE HEARING?

17

18 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** WE DO NEED TO, MADAME CHAIR, JUST FOR
19 CLARIFICATION, SO AS COUNTY COUNSEL STATED, THERE ARE TWO
20 AMENDMENTS TO THE ORDINANCE BEFORE YOU AND WE NEED TO TAKE
21 THOSE UP SEPARATELY, THERE'S ALSO YOUR MOTION AND SUPERVISOR
22 RIDLEY-THOMAS'S MOTION THAT WE NEED TO TAKE AS A SEPARATE
23 ACTION.

24



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1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** VERY GOOD. ALL RIGHT. SO WE HAVE CLOSED
2 THE PUBLIC HEARING, AND AGAIN, LET'S BEGIN WITH TAKING UP THE
3 AMENDMENT AS PRESENTED BY SUPERVISOR KNABE, AND SINCE HE'S NOT
4 HERE, I'LL MOVE IT. SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS. ANY
5 OBJECTION? ALL RIGHT. SO ORDERED ON THAT ITEM. THE SECOND
6 AMENDMENT BY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS, SECONDED BY MYSELF, IS,
7 AGAIN, THE DEFINING THE APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL STANDARDS
8 AND REGULATIONS FOR PACKAGING AND REUSABLE BAGS, THAT
9 CLARIFICATION. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS, SECONDED BY
10 MYSELF. IS THERE ANY OBJECTION? NONE. ALL RIGHT. SO WE HAVE
11 THOSE ITEMS.

12

13 **ANDREA ORDIN, COUNSEL:** MADAME CHAIR, JUST FOR ABSOLUTE
14 CLARITY, SHOULD WE READ INTO THE RECORD THE ENTIRE CHANGE?

15

16 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** I'M SORRY?

17

18 **ANDREA ORDIN, COUNSEL:** YOU'VE HAD BOTH MOTIONS AND I JUST
19 WONDERED IF YOU WANTED IT READ WITH BOTH OF THEM IN.

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** I DON'T THINK IT'S NECESSARY, BUT THANK
22 YOU. I APPRECIATE IT. ALL RIGHT. ON THE OVERALL ORDINANCE AND
23 IN THE AMENDED-- AS AMENDED, MOVED BY MYSELF, SECONDED BY
24 SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY. IS THERE ANY OBJECTION? ALL RIGHT.
25 THERE IS OBJECTION FROM SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH, BUT EVEN WITH



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1 HIS OBJECTION, THIS ORDINANCE IS PASSED. [CHEERS AND
2 APPLAUSE.]

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. NOW WE ALSO HAVE AN ADDITIONAL
5 ITEM ON THIS, AND BASICALLY CONNECTED WITH IT IS "SINCE 2007,
6 WE HAVE INSTRUCTED STAFF TO EVALUATE OPTIONS TO REUSE-- TO
7 REDUCE THE USE OF PLASTIC BAGS IN THE COUNTY AND OUR
8 DEPARTMENTS HAVE REDUCED THEIR CONSUMPTION OF PLASTIC BAGS AND
9 MOST DEPARTMENTS HAVE ELIMINATE PLASTIC BAGS USAGE. WE MUST
10 NOW COMMIT TO ELIMINATE PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS FROM ALL
11 OPERATIONS. I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
12 DIRECT ALL DEPARTMENTS TO PHASE OUT BY NO LATER THAN JULY 1ST
13 OF 2011 THE USE OF PLASTIC CARRY OUT BAGS AT ALL COUNTY
14 OPERATED FACILITIES AND OFFICES INCLUDING COMMERCIAL FOOD AND
15 BEVERAGE SUPPLIERS, COUNTY-SPONSORED EVENTS AND COUNTY
16 OPERATED FACILITIES AS WELL AS OUR OFFICES."

17

18 **SUP. RIDLEY-THOMAS:** SECOND.

19

20 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** BEEN MOVED AND SECONDED. ANY OBJECTION? NO
21 OBJECTION. SO ORDERED ON THAT ITEM AS WELL. [APPLAUSE.]

22

23 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. THAT CONCLUDES THAT ITEM.

24



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1 **ANDREA ORDIN, COUNSEL:** MADAME CHAIR? MADAME CHAIR? ONE OTHER
2 ITEM, ONE OTHER ITEM, MADAME CHAIR. I THINK THERE SHOULD BE A
3 SPECIFIC MOTION ON ITEM 41 SINCE, IN ADDITION TO THE TWO
4 AMENDMENTS WHICH WE HAVE PASSED, I'M NOT SURE WE HAVE HAD--

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** YES, WE DID.

7

8 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** SHE TOOK THAT UP. IT WAS MOVED BY
9 SUPERVISOR MOLINA, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY WITH
10 SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH VOTING "NO."

11

12 **ANDREA ORDIN, COUNSEL:** OKAY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

13

14 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** AND WE DID VOTE TO CERTIFY THE E.I.R..
15 RIGHT?

16

17 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** THAT WAS INCLUDED IN THE OVERALL--

18

19 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** ALL RIGHT.

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU SO MUCH AGAIN, THE DEPARTMENT OF
22 PUBLIC WORKS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK ON ALL OF THIS. ALL
23 RIGHT. NEXT ITEM IS AN ITEM, A MOTION THAT I HAVE MADE, WHICH
24 IS ITEM NUMBER 5. ALL OF YOU THAT ARE LEAVING, IF YOU COULD
25 LEAVE QUIETLY, PLEASE. WE APPRECIATE YOU JOINING US, BUT WE



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1 HAVE OTHER ITEMS TO TAKE UP. ALL RIGHT. AS WE'VE ALL BEEN
2 READING RECENTLY, ALTHOUGH IT IS SOMETHING THAT WE HAVE BEEN
3 DEALING WITH FOR A NUMBER OF DECADES, AND THAT IS THE, QUOTE,
4 CITY OF VERNON. I REMEMBER NOT ONLY BEFORE I RAN AND WHEN I
5 WAS RUNNING FOR OFFICE IN 1981 BUT EVEN BEFORE THAT WHEN I WAS
6 CAMPAIGNING FOR OTHERS, I REMEMBER GOING TO THE CITY OF
7 VERNON, LOOKING AT THAT TIME FOR THE 62 PEOPLE THAT WERE
8 REGISTERED TO VOTE, AND I REMEMBER BEING SHUT OUT COMPLETELY
9 AND SAID THAT THEY DIDN'T WANT TO SPEAK TO ANYBODY. THEY KNEW
10 WHO TO VOTE FOR AND THEY WOULD BE TOLD EVENTUALLY WHO TO VOTE
11 FOR, AND IT HASN'T BEEN ANY DIFFERENT SINCE. IT SEEMS AS
12 THOUGH THE CITY OF VERNON HAS MADE IT FOR DECADES EXACTLY THAT
13 WAY BY ASSURING THAT ALL OF THE RESIDENTIAL UNITS WITHIN THEIR
14 CITY ARE FILLED WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE BEHOLDING TO THE CITY IN
15 ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. BELIEVE ME, WE HAVE LOOKED AT EVERY
16 SINGLE MANNER, WAY OR POSSIBILITY THAT THAT COULD CHANGE SO WE
17 WOULD HAVE A MORE DEMOCRATIC VERNON, BUT THAT HAS BEEN
18 DIFFICULT TO DO AS IS. EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THESE ISSUES, NO
19 MATTER WHERE THEY ARE, WHETHER YOU WANT TO INCORPORATE VERNON
20 INTO YOUR AREA, YOUR CITY OR WHATEVER, OR YOU WANT TO
21 DISINCORPORATE, IF THERE'S SUCH A WORD. THE ONLY ISSUE THERE
22 IS THAT THE RESIDENTS-- THAT THE VOTERS MUST VOTE ON THE
23 ISSUE. SO IF, IN FACT, YOU CONTROLLED THE VOTING BLOC, THEN
24 YOU KNOW THAT THIS IS NEVER GOING TO CHANGE. SO THE ONLY
25 OPTION WE HAVE IS A MOTION THAT WE HAVE INTRODUCED THAT



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1 BASICALLY WOULD SAY TO ANY CHARTER CITY, AS VERNON IS, THAT IT
2 COULD NOT ALLOCATE MORE THAN 10 PERCENT OF ITS OWNED AND
3 CONTROLLED HOUSING TO CITY EMPLOYEES OR INDIVIDUALS WITH THE
4 CONFLICT OF INTEREST, AND WE HAVE THAT, AGAIN, THAT WOULD LET
5 THE COUNTY OR ITS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO
6 COMPETITIVELY BID ANY HOUSING THAT EXCEEDS THAT LIMIT, AND, OF
7 COURSE, WE WOULD PROVIDE RELOCATION MECHANISM FOR THOSE THAT
8 ARE DISPLACED BY THAT. SO THIS HAS TO GO THROUGH A PROCESS IN
9 WHICH WE ARE RECOMMENDING ONCE WE PASS IT HERE, WOULD GO TO
10 THE STATE LEGISLATURE IN ORDER TO CHANGE THE LAW AND THEN IT
11 WOULD BE PUT ON THE BALLOT. THAT IS HOW EXTENSIVE THIS KIND OF
12 DRAMATIC CHANGE HAS TO HAPPEN, BUT IT IS A PATHWAY TO BRINGING
13 A MORE DEMOCRATIC APPROACH OR A DEMOCRATIC APPROACH TO THE
14 CITY OF VERNON, SO THAT MOTION IS BEFORE US THAT WE WOULD LIKE
15 TO SEE PASSED. WE HAVE A COUPLE OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO
16 ADDRESS US. LET ME BEGIN WITH MARISA OLGUIN, IF SHE WOULD JOIN
17 US, FOLLOWED BY STEVE FREED, FREDERICK STEIN, AND ROBERT
18 MOECK. MISS OLGUIN?

19

20 **MARISA OLGUIN:** GOOD MORNING, MADAME CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE
21 SUPERVISORS BOARD.

22

23 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WE CAN BARELY HEAR YOU. SPEAK A LITTLE
24 LOUDER, THANK YOU.

25



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1 **MARISA OLGUIN:** MY NAME'S MARISA ALGUIN. I AM PRESIDENT OF THE
2 VERNON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND WE WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR
3 CONCERN OVER THE RECENT TROUBLES THAT VERNON DOES HAVE AND HAS
4 HAD WITH A HIRED CITY EMPLOYEE. THE CHAMBER AS AN ADVOCATE FOR
5 BUSINESS HAS COMMUNICATED ITS DISAPPROVAL OF SALARY
6 COMPENSATIONS AND OF HIRED STAFF AND HAS CALLED FOR BETTER
7 MUNICIPAL PRACTICES. WE ALSO ENCOURAGE AND ADVOCATE FOR THE
8 JUDICIAL SYSTEM TO HOLD ANY OF THESE PERSONS ACCOUNTABLE FOR
9 THE ABUSE OF TAX DOLLARS. BUT I'M HERE TO CLARIFY STATEMENTS
10 THAT VERNON IS NOT A LEGITIMATE CITY AND THAT IT PROVIDES
11 LITTLE SERVICES TO ITS RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS POPULATION.
12 QUITE THE OPPOSITE. IT'S A 100-YEAR-OLD CHARTED CITY
13 MUNICIPALITY WHOSE INFRASTRUCTURE WAS DESIGNED PRIMARILY AS
14 YOU KNOW TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF BUSINESS. THERE IS CHALLENGES
15 WITH VOTING AND RESIDENTIAL AND THAT IS SOMETHING THAT THE
16 CHAMBER AND ITS BUSINESS COMMUNITIES ARE ACUTELY AWARE OF AND
17 WOULD LIKE TO INVOLVE A WAY TO DEAL WITH THIS UNIQUE
18 CHARACTERISTIC OF THE CITY. BUT ANY THREAT TO DISCORPORATE OR
19 ANNEX VERNON INTO L.A. COUNTY OR L.A. CITY OR ANY NEARBY
20 COMMUNITIES WOULD BASICALLY PUT THE STABILITY OF 1,400
21 BUSINESSES AND THEIR 50,000 EMPLOYEES AT RISK. IT WOULD
22 CATAPULT THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY INTO JEOPARDY AND THEY WOULD
23 NOT BE ABLE TO RECEIVE THE TIMELY SERVICES OF POLICE AND FIRE
24 AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT, ALL THE EXCELLENT
25 SERVICES THAT THE CITY PROVIDES. THE CHAMBER IS HERE BEFORE



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1 YOU TO RESPECTFULLY AND STRONGLY CONSIDER FOR YOU TO BE
2 CAUTIOUS ABOUT THIS, ABOUT WHAT YOUR NEXT STEPS ENTAIL AND
3 WHAT OTHER AREA PUBLIC OFFICIALS DECIDE TO DO. MY QUESTION TO
4 THE BOARD IS WHO TRULY BENEFITS, WHO WINS FROM THIS? AND I
5 WOULD ARGUE THAT THE LOSERS-- I COULD TELL YOU THE LOSERS, WHO
6 THEY WOULD BE, AND THAT IS THE 1,400 COMPANIES THAT PROVIDE
7 THESE SOLID JOBS WHERE THEY ARE GETTING PAID AND THEY SPEND
8 THEIR PAYCHECKS IN THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES. WE KNOW THAT
9 OUR COMPANIES WOULD INSTANTLY CLOSE THEIR BUSINESS, THEY WILL
10 INSTANTLY MOVE TO OUT OF THE STATE, SO THEIR PROFIT MARGINS
11 ARE ALREADY VERY SHORT AND SMALL AND WE ALSO HAVE A 12 TO 14
12 PERCENT UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, SO THIS DEFINITELY WOULD HAVE MAJOR
13 ECONOMIC IMPACT. ANY ANNEXATION OR DISINCORPORATION IS NOT
14 JUST A LOCAL MUNICIPAL PROBLEM, BUT IT WILL BE A STATE
15 ECONOMIC PROBLEM WITH GLOBAL INDICATIONS, SO WE ENCOURAGE A
16 DIALOGUE WITH THE BOARD OR WITH THE COUNTY OR ANY OTHER
17 ELECTED OFFICIALS ON THE MATTER.

18

19 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MISS OLGUIN, HAVE YOU READ MY MOTION? IT
20 DOESN'T DISINCORPORATE YOU OR ANNEX YOU.

21

22 **MARISA OLGUIN:** RIGHT. WE RESPECTFULLY ASK THAT YOU'D BE
23 CAUTIOUS AS YOU VOTE FOR THIS RESOLUTION.

24

25 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** I KNOW, BUT IT DOESN'T DO THIS THINGS.



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1

2 **MARISA OLGUIN:** STILL.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** I KNOW, BUT YOU'RE OPPOSING SOMETHING
5 WE'RE NOT GOING TO DO.

6

7 **MARISA OLGUIN:** I KNOW IT STARTS THE PROCESS OF A STATEWIDE
8 LEGISLATIVE MOVEMENT AND SO WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO RECONSIDER.

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL IT WOULD DO IS IT WOULD ALLOW FOR
11 HOUSING THAT PEOPLE WOULD BE ABLE TO FREELY MOVE IN AND OUT
12 AND THEY WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE CONTROLLED BY THE CITY. YOU'RE
13 OPPOSING THAT PART.

14

15 **MARISA OLGUIN:** AS IT CURRENTLY IS FOR A SEPARATE COMMISSION TO
16 BE SET UP.

17

18 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SO WHO WOULD DO IT THEN? DO YOU THINK THE
19 HOUSING SHOULD BE CONTROLLED BY THE ELECTED OFFICIALS?

20

21 **MARISA OLGUIN:** NO. I THINK IT NEEDS TO BE DEMOCRATIC. I AGREE
22 WITH YOU WITH THAT, DEFINITELY.

23

24 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SO WHO WOULD BE A BETTER PERSON, A BETTER
25 GROUP THAT MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE SURE THAT-- BUT YOU SUPPORT



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1 THAT 90 PERCENT OF THE HOUSING SHOULD AT LEAST BE FREE OF ANY
2 CONFLICT.

3

4 **MARISA OLGUIN:** ABSOLUTELY. MUST BE FREE OF CITY OWNED HOUSING,
5 ABSOLUTELY, AND I THINK THAT THE BUSINESSES ARE THE TRUE
6 CONSTITUENCY AND THEY ARE THE MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS AND THEY
7 SHOULD PLAY A ROLE IN HOW THAT IS DETERMINED.

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND IS THAT WHILE
10 THEY'RE A CONSTITUENCY, UNDER THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, THEY'RE
11 NOT A VOTING CONSTITUENCY.

12

13 **MARISA OLGUIN:** YES, THAT IS A CHALLENGE, AND I ENCOURAGE A WAY
14 FOR EXPLORING HOW THAT CONSTITUENCY COULD EITHER HAVE A VOTE
15 OR COULD PLAY A PROCESS IN PROVIDING THOSE CHECKS AND BALANCES
16 OVER THE RESIDENTIALS.

17

18 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** I WANTED YOU TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS
19 MOTION IS ABOUT, SO IT'S NOT ABOUT INCORPORATION,
20 DISINCORPORATION OR ANNEXING. OKAY. MR. FREED.

21

22 **STEVE FREED:** YES. THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME SPEAK. FIRST OF
23 ALL, I'M WITH THE PROPERTY-- VERNON PROPERTY ASSOCIATION. WE
24 REPRESENT QUITE A FEW OF THE BUSINESS AND PROPERTY OWNERS IN
25 VERNON, I MYSELF AM A PROPERTY OWNER IN VERNON. WE WANT TO



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1 COMMEND SUPERVISOR MOLINA'S EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE ETHICS
2 VIOLATIONS AND CORRUPTION ISSUES PLAGUING THE CITY OF VERNON.
3 THE CITY OF VERNON'S CURRENT POLICY OF HAND PICKING WHO VOTES
4 IN THE CITY IS A FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF OUR COUNTRY'S
5 FOUNDATION FOR DEMOCRACY AND NEEDS TO BE DISCONTINUED AS SOON
6 AS POSSIBLE. UNFORTUNATELY, THE CURRENT MOTION BEFORE THE
7 SUPERVISORS WOULD, IF ENACTED AS WRITTEN, ENABLE OTHER GROUPS
8 OF PEOPLE WITH NEFARIOUS INTENTIONS TO EASILY TAKE OVER THE
9 CITY. THERE IS SO MUCH MONEY AT STAKE AND SO FEW VOTES NEEDED
10 FOR A MAJORITY THAT NEGATIVE OUTSIDE INFLUENCES WOULD ALWAYS
11 BE TRYING TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE VERY FEW VERNON HOUSING UNITS.
12 BECAUSE THERE ARE SO FEW VOTERS, BY SIMPLY ADDING ROOMMATES TO
13 THEIR LEASES, THE TENANTS WOULD BE IN A POSITION OF NEGATIVELY
14 IMPACTING THE ELECTIONS IN THE CITY AND SOONER OR LATER,
15 HIJACK THE CITY COUNCIL SEATS FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSE. THUS WE
16 WOULD END UP IN THE SAME OR WORSE SITUATION THAN WE ARE
17 CURRENTLY MIRED IN. THIS WAS ATTEMPTED THREE OR FOUR YEARS
18 AGO. IT WILL BE ATTEMPTED AGAIN. THERE'S SIMPLY TOO MUCH MONEY
19 AT STAKE. THE TRUE CONSTITUENTS OF THE CITY OF VERNON ARE THE
20 PROPERTY AND BUSINESS OWNERS AND WE HAVE NO VOICE IN WHAT
21 HAPPENS IN OUR COMMUNITY. THE ISSUES OF A SMALL VOTER POOL AND
22 GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY TO ITS CONSTITUENTS ARE THE TWO
23 LARGEST PROBLEMS FACING THE CITY OF VERNON, AND WITH YOUR
24 ASSISTANCE, BOTH CAN BE RESOLVED. THERE ARE CURRENTLY AT LEAST
25 10 STATES IN THE UNITED STATES THAT HAVE RECOGNIZED THAT IN



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1 CERTAIN SITUATIONS, IT IS NECESSARY TO ALLOW NONRESIDENT
2 VOTING IN THEIR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE PROPER
3 REPRESENTATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY. IF
4 YOU CHAMPION OUR MOVEMENT WITH THE STATE LEGISLATURE USING THE
5 SAME PROCESS THAT YOU PROPOSE IN THE CURRENT MOTION, YOU CAN
6 BRING JUSTICE TO VERNON AND GIVE US THE VOTE THAT WE NEED,
7 GIVE US THE VOTE AND WE PROMISE WE WILL CLEAN THINGS UP. IT'S
8 INCONCEIVABLE THAT IN THIS DAY AND AGE WE ALLOW A CITY TO HOLD
9 ELECTION IN WHICH IT HAND PICKS ITS VOTERS AND ACTIVELY WORKS
10 TO ENSURE THAT NOT A SINGLE PROPERTY OR BUSINESS OWNER IS
11 ALLOWED AN OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE IN CITY ELECTIONS. WE ENCOURAGE
12 YOUR DESIRE TO CORRECT VERNON'S LONGSTANDING FLAUNTING OF
13 DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND NEVER ENDING ISSUES OF CORRUPTION
14 AND ETHICS VIOLATIONS, AND WE IMPLORE YOU TO OPEN A DISCUSSION
15 ON ALLOWING OUR CITY'S TRUE CONSTITUENCY A CHANCE TO BE
16 REPRESENTED AT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL. THANK YOU.

17

18 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** I NOTICE THAT YOU LIVE IN BEVERLY HILLS.
19 DO YOU THINK YOUR CITY WOULD EVER ALLOW THE BUSINESS
20 OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A VOTE IN ITS CITY?

21

22 **STEVE FREED:** I THINK JUST AS IN OTHER STATES THAT HAVE ALLOWED
23 THIS, IT'S ONLY UNDER VERY CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES--

24



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1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** IT'D BE FASCINATING TO SEE BEVERLY HILLS
2 STOP SUCH AN ORDINANCE.

3

4 **STEVE FREED:** IT'S NOT NEEDED IN BEVERLY HILLS. IF YOU ARE A
5 BUSINESS OWNER--

6

7 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WHY NOT? ARE THOSE BUSINESS INTERESTS AS
8 EQUALLY AS IMPORTANT AS YOURS?

9

10 **STEVE FREED:** YES, AND THEY CAN MOVE INTO THE CITY AND VOTE IN
11 THE ELECTION.

12

13 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WAIT A MINUTE, SIR. I'M GIVING YOU AN
14 OPPORTUNITY. OF THOSE 90 HOMES OR WHATEVER, YOU'RE GOING TO
15 HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE IN FROM BEVERLY HILLS INTO VERNON
16 AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY.

17

18 **STEVE FREED:** AND UNFORTUNATELY SO WILL SOME VERY NEFARIOUS
19 PEOPLE. WITH SUCH A SMALL MAJORITY NEEDED, THE ELECTIONS ARE
20 GOING TO BE SKEWED AND WE'RE GOING TO END UP IN A WORSE
21 SITUATION.

22

23 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WELL, WE'RE TRYING TO CREATE A DEMOCRATIC
24 PROCESS FOR VERNON AND THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GO. BUT AGAIN,
25 LIKE I SAID, I'D BE FASCINATED TO SEE THIS KIND OF MOVEMENT



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1 HAPPEN IN BEVERLY HILLS. ALL RIGHT. MR. STEIN, AND I'D ALSO
2 LIKE TO ASK JOHN NORTON AS WELL AS JULIET GOFF TO JOIN US. MR.
3 STEIN.

4

5 **FREDERICK STEIN:** MY NAME IS FREDERICK STEIN. I AM A RETIRED
6 BUSINESSMAN WHO WAS IN BUSINESS IN VERNON FOR OVER 40 YEARS
7 I'M NOT REALLY A STAKEHOLDER HERE, ALTHOUGH I'M WITH ROB FROM
8 DOUGLAS STEEL. THE CITY OF VERNON WORKS WELL FOR THE
9 BUSINESSES AND THAT'S WHO IS THERE. I BELIEVE THAT FOR ALL OF
10 THE-- ALL OF THE LAWS THAT WERE BROKEN, THE PEOPLE WHO WERE
11 RESPONSIBLE SHOULD BE PROSECUTED. I BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE--

12

13 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** IT'S IN PROCESS.

14

15 **FREDERICK STEIN:** IT'S IN PROCESS, BUT IT'S BEEN PROCESSED FOR
16 YEARS. HOW IT'S BEEN STALLED OFF, I DON'T NKOW.

17

18 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** YOU KNOW THOSE SAME 90 VOTERS.

19

20 **FREDERICK STEIN:** THERE MUST BE A BETTER SYSTEM THAN, YOU KNOW,
21 HOW DO WE KNOW THAT THE CITY FATHERS WON'T DECIDE TO KNOCK
22 DOWN 90 PERCENT OF THE HOUSES THAT ARE OUT THERE. THEY COULD
23 DO THAT. THEY COULD SAY, WE'RE NOT GOING TO WORRY ABOUT IT,
24 WITH ME ONLY HAVE 10 PEOPLE AND WE'LL FIND A WAY TO HANDLE THE



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1 10 PEOPLE. YOU DON'T KNOW THAT. THE SUGGESTION THAT WE JUST
2 HAD SOUNDS LIKE A REALLY GOOD IDEA TO ME, AND THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR. MR. MOECK.

5

6 **ROBERT MOECK:** GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS ROBERT MOECK AND I'M
7 THE VICE PRESIDENT OF DOUGLAS STEEL SUPPLY. OUR COMPANY MOVED
8 TO VERNON IN 1983 AND I WORKED FOR THE COMPANY FOR THE PAST 11
9 YEARS. AS A BUSINESSMAN, I SEE MANY BENEFITS TO THE IDEA OF A
10 BUSINESS FRIENDLY CITY SUCH AS VERNON. SINCE WE HAVE MOVED OUR
11 OPERATIONS TO VERNON OVER 27 YEARS AGO, OUR COMPANY HAS NEVER
12 SEEN SUCH A THREAT TO ITS SURVIVAL THAN THE CURRENT CHANGES
13 BEING DISCUSSED TODAY. OUR BUSINESS HAS BEEN AROUND FOR 40
14 YEARS AND WE EMPLOY A HUNDRED PEOPLE. VERNON HAS BEEN
15 STRATEGIC TO THE GROWTH AND TO THE SUCCESS THAT WE HAVE
16 ENJOYED AND WE ARE NOT ALONE. THE UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR OF A FEW
17 INDIVIDUALS SHOULD NOT RESULT IN A LEGISLATIVE ATTEMPT TO FIX
18 A PROBLEM THAT HAS NOT BEEN FULLY ANALYZED NOR DISCUSSED WITH
19 THE BUSINESSMEN AND WOMEN OF VERNON. THE PROBLEMS WITH THE
20 CITY OF VERNON ARE COMPLEX. THE BEHAVIOR OF SOME OF THE
21 ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CITY MANAGERS HAS BEEN DEPLORABLE. THEIR
22 ACTIONS ARE NOT DEFENDABLE AND THE WAY THE CITY CONDUCTS ITS
23 BUSINESS MUST CHANGE. I WILL SAY THAT AGAIN. THE CITY OF
24 VERNON MUST CHANGE ITS WAY OF DOING BUSINESS. WHILE THE
25 PRACTICES OF THE CITY MUST CHANGE, THESE CHANGES NEED TO BE



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1 WELL THOUGHT OUT AND ALL ASPECTS ANALYZED. A QUICK FIX MAY
2 SEEM LIKE THE SOLUTION BUT CAUSES MORE PROBLEMS IN THE END. I
3 BELIEVE THAT THE CURRENT PLAN TO CHANGE THE HOUSING FOR THE
4 CITY OF VERNON WILL LEAD TO THE COLLAPSE OF THE CITY. THIS
5 WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC FOR THE BUSINESSES AND PROPERTY OWNERS
6 IN VERNON. IN ADDITION TO ALL THE DIRECT BENEFITS THE CITY
7 OFFERS, THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS HAVE A DIRECT EFFECT
8 ON THE BOTTOM LINE. THE CLASS ONE FIRE DEPARTMENT, ONE OF ONLY
9 35 CITIES IN THE NATION WITH THIS COVETED RATING, ALLOWS FOR
10 SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED FIRE AND PROPERTY INSURANCE PREMIUMS,
11 AND THE ALMOST NONEXISTENT CRIME RATE ALLOWS BUSINESSES TO
12 OPERATE WITHOUT PROBLEMS AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH HIGHER
13 CRIME RATES IN ALL OF THE CITIES SURROUNDING VERNON. THE REAL
14 PROBLEM WITH THE CITY AND ITS FORM OF GOVERNMENT IS THAT THE
15 TRUE CONSTITUENTS OF THE CITY ARE THE BUSINESS OWNERS AND
16 LANDOWNERS. THESE BUSINESS-- THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY GETS NO
17 SAY IN THE ELECTION PROCESS OR IN THE MEANS WITH WHICH REVENUE
18 IS SPENT. THE CURRENT RESIDENTS DO NOT OWN ANY LAND. THEY DO
19 NOT RUN ANY COMPANY OR BEHOLDEN TO THE PERSON OR ENTITY THAT
20 PLAGUED PLACED THEM IN THAT HOUSE. THE RESIDENTS HAVE NO STAKE
21 IN THE COMMUNITY. THERE ARE NO SERVICES FOR THEM, NO STORES
22 FOR THEM TO SHOP IN, NO HOSPITALS, NO PARKS, NO LIBRARIES.
23 ASSIGNING A NEW AGENCY TO DISTRIBUTE THE HOUSING IN VERNON
24 WILL NOT FIX THE PROBLEM. YOU WOULD STILL HAVE ONLY ABOUT 90
25 RESIDENTAL UNITS VOTING FOR A DISTRICT THAT HAS 1,800



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1 COMPANIES AND ROUGHLY 50,000 EMPLOYEES. ANY INFLUENCE
2 PRESENTED TO THOSE 90 UNITS WOULD EASILY SWAY THE VOTE.
3 CONSIDERING RECENT ELECTION RESULTS WHERE LESS THAN ONE-THIRD
4 OF THE POPULATION VOTED, YOU ARE LOOKING AT FEWER THAN 30
5 VOTES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. NOT TRULY A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS NO
6 MATTER WHO THOSE 90 RESIDENTS ARE OR WHO CHOOSES THEM TO LIVE
7 THERE. IN ORDER FOR DEMOCRACY TO EXIST IN VERNON, I WOULD
8 PROPOSE A SYSTEM WHERE EACH LANDOWNER COULD GET ONE VOTE FOR
9 PARCEL OF LAND OWNED. THE LANDOWNER WOULD ONLY VOTE IN HIS
10 BEST INTEREST. THE RENTER WOULD INFORM THE LANDLORD OF WHAT
11 ISSUES ARE IMPORTANT TO HIS BUSINESS AND WOULD BE IN THE
12 LANDLORD'S BEST INTEREST TO VOTE FOR THAT TENANT'S NEEDS.
13 THERE'S BEEN SOME DISCUSSION OF REVOKING THE CITY CHARTER AND
14 HAVING VERNON ABSORBED BY EITHER COUNTY, THE CITY OF L.A. OR--

15

16 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR. DO YOU WANT TO SUMMARIZE?
17 THANK YOU.

18

19 **ROBERT MOECK:** ANY CHANGE TO THE WAY THE CITY CONDUCTS ITS
20 BUSINESS NOW, WITHOUT INCORPORATING THE VIEWS OF THE BUSINESS,
21 WOULD HARM THE TAX BASE AND WOULD CAUSE ECONOMIC HAVOC
22 THROUGHOUT THAT REGION, MAKING IT A TAX LIABILITY FOR WHOEVER
23 TOOK IT OVER.

24

25 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR. MR. NORTON.



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1

2 **JOHN NORTON:** HONORABLE CHAIR, SUPERVISORY BOARD, WE APPRECIATE

3 YOUR CONCERN. THE OUTSIDE WORLD SEEMS TO BE PRETTY CONCERNED

4 WITH WHAT'S A SMALL COMMUNITY'S PROBLEMS THAT HAVE GROWN TO

5 LARGE PROPORTION. IT'S A NEWS STORY THAT MAKES FOR GOOD

6 READING. UNFORTUNATELY, THE SOLUTION TO IT OF PUTTING THE

7 HANDS OF THE CITY INTO A DIFFERENT ENTITY, WHETHER IT BE

8 THROUGH CHANGE OF VOTER POPULATION OR A CHANGE OF GOVERNANCE

9 BY INCORPORATION INTO ANOTHER AREA, MISSES THE POINT OF THE

10 BUSINESS COMMUNITY ITSELF. MY BUSINESS HAS BEEN IN VERNON FOR

11 OVER 50 YEARS, I'M THIRD GENERATION. WE HAVE SEEN THE GOOD AND

12 THE BAD OF VERNON, THE CORRUPTION AND THE SELF-SERVING

13 INTERESTS OF LEADERSHIP EXISTS THERE CERTAINLY FROM TIME TO

14 TIME TO THE DETRIMENT OF A LOT OF US. UNFORTUNATELY, JUST LOOK

15 AT THAT FROM THE OUTSIDE AND MISS WHAT GOOD THE CITY DOES

16 BECAUSE IT IS SOLELY FOCUSED ON BUSINESS. THIS IS THE HUGE

17 ASSET THAT VERNON IS. VERNON HAS PROVIDED UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES

18 FOR THE BUSINESSES THAT ARE THERE, OPPORTUNITIES OF FOCUS OF

19 SERVICES, OF POLICE, FIRE, OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL

20 SOURCES. IT TRULY IS A WONDERFUL PLACE TO DO BUSINESS, AND TO

21 THINK THAT THERE ARE A CONSTITUENCY FROM OUTSIDE OF THIS

22 ENVIRONMENT THAT CAN DO A BETTER JOB IS I THINK MISGUIDED.

23 VOTERS, IT'S NOT REALLY A DEMOCRACY BECAUSE IT DOESN'T HAVE A

24 HUGE POPULATION THAT GETS SERVED BY ANYTHING IT VOTES ON.

25 THOSE 90 VOTERS DON'T NEED THE BUSINESSES TO PROVIDE THEM



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1 PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES, THERE'S NOT AREAS TO DO THAT.
2 WHAT THOSE BUSINESSES DO NEED IS A GOVERNMENT THAT IS IN
3 PLACE, THAT IS REPRESENTATIVE OF ITS INTERESTS GOING FORWARD
4 FROM HERE AND TO CLEAN UP WHAT HAS BEEN DONE IN THE PAST,
5 WHICH IS GETTING RID OF CONTRACTS AND THINKING THAT THEY CAN
6 RUN THINGS JUST AS THEY WANT IN THEIR OWN LITTLE FIEFDOM. WE
7 ALL THINK THIS IS WRONG. WE'VE MET AS A BUSINESS GROUP TO
8 DISCUSS THIS QUITE AT LENGTH. A LOT OF BUSINESSES SAY SIMPLY
9 THAT THEY WILL MOVE OUT IF THAT FOCUS IS LOST, SO I DON'T
10 THINK THAT GUIDING A RESTRICTIVE POPULATION WITH AN OUTSIDE
11 INFLUENCE OF WHO GETS TO LIVE THERE IS REALLY A GREAT ANSWER.
12 I KNOW YOU COMMENTED ON, "WELL, GEE, I'D LIKE TO SEE BEVERLY
13 HILLS LET THEIR BUSINESSES RUN," BUT IT IS A LITTLE BIT OFF
14 THE MARK. BEVERLY HILLS HAS A POPULATION THAT NEEDS TO BE
15 SERVED AS A POPULATION OF RESIDENCES. VERNON HAS A POPULATION
16 OF BUSINESS, IT NEEDS TO BE SERVED THROUGH BUSINESS INTERESTS,
17 SO HOPEFULLY CAN FIND A WAY TO DO THAT RATHER THAN CHANGE WHO
18 VOTES AND HOW THEY VOTE. WE NEED TO GET REPRESENTATION OF
19 BUSINESS AND HAVE THAT STAY IN PLACE.

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MR. NORTON, JUST TO BE AS RESPECTFUL AS I
22 CAN WITH YOU, I UNDERSTAND THE BUSINESS INTERESTS. WE'VE KNOWN
23 VERNON, I'VE REPRESENTED VERNON IN THE LEGISLATURE FOR A
24 NUMBER OF YEARS AND I REPRESENT IT NOW, AND THERE IS NO DOUBT
25 THAT IT IS A BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND SO ON. BUT, AGAIN, CITIES



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1 WEREN'T MADE FOR THE PURPOSES OF RUNNING BUSINESSES. >JOHN
2 NORTON: VERNON WAS.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** I UNDERSTAND. AND SO THERE IS A DEMOCRATIC
5 PROCESS THAT IS IN PLACE HERE AND THAT HAS BEEN VIOLATED, WE
6 THINK, FOR THE MOST PART, BY THE KIND OF STRONG CONTROL AND
7 KIND OF DICTATORSHIP THAT HAS OPERATED THERE FOR A NUMBER OF
8 YEARS AND IT HAS OPERATED SILENTLY, QUIETLY FOR A NUMBER OF
9 YEARS, BUT LIKE ANYTHING ELSE, AND YOU KNOW HOW THE RUBBER
10 BAND WORKS, YOU STRETCH IT SO FAR AND EVENTUALLY IT BUSTS. I
11 THINK THESE GUYS HAVE OVERSTEPPED THEIR BOUNDS. THE KIND OF
12 CORRUPTION THAT WE HAVE SEEN, THE KIND OF THINGS THAT ARE
13 GOING ON, EVEN IN SOME OF THE NEIGHBORING CITIES AS WELL AND
14 WE NEED TO GO AFTER IT. IN THIS INSTANCE, WHEN YOU HAVE THIS
15 KIND OF CONTROL, AND I THINK THE PART THAT HAS BEEN MOST
16 ANNOYING OF ALL IS HAVING BEEN A REPRESENTATIVE OF THAT AREA,
17 INCLUDING ALL OF THE NEIGHBORING CITIES. WHEN WE HAVE HAD
18 ISSUES LIKE THE VERNON INCINERATOR, ALL RIGHT, THAT WAS GOING
19 TO HAVE AN IMPACT ON MANY OF THE RESIDENTS ON THE EAST SIDE,
20 WE WERE NOT EVEN PERMITTED TO SPEAK AT YOUR CITY COUNCIL
21 MEETING, NOT EVEN PERMITTED TO SPEAK. ALL RIGHT?

22

23 **JOHN NORTON:** I APPRECIATE YOUR SENTIMENT ON THAT.

24



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1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** IT'S BECAUSE OF THE DICTATORSHIP THAT'S
2 INVOLVED ON SOMETHING THAT IS GOING TO IMPACT HUNDREDS OF
3 THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN AND RESIDENTS AND SO THIS IS WHAT WE DO
4 NEED TO CONTROL. THEY NEED TO BE A BETTER NEIGHBOR, THEY NEED
5 TO BE A GOOD MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, EVEN FOR THE BUSINESSES AND
6 ALL OF ITS RESIDENTS. SO AGAIN, I AM SORRY WE HAVE TO GO THIS
7 FAR, BUT I THINK IT'S TIME. WE MAY NOT BE SUCCESSFUL BUT WE'RE
8 MAKING EVERY EFFORT UNDER THE LAW TO FIND A PATHWAY TO CREATE
9 A MORE DEMOCRATIC VERNON, BUT THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR
10 TESTIMONY. MISS GOFF, FOLLOWED BY ARNOLD SACHS.

11

12 **JULIET GOFF:** GOOD AFTERNOON. MADAME CHAIR, COUNCIL, I SHARE
13 YOUR OUTRAGE. I'M NEW TO VERNON. I'M A BUSINESS OWNER. I
14 EMPLOY 18 EMPLOYEES, AND THERE'S 18 FAMILIES INCLUDING MY OWN
15 THAT DEPENDS ON THE LIVELIHOOD OF MY BUSINESS. I DIDN'T COME
16 TO VERNON UNTIL 1997, SO I'M A NEWCOMER TO THE CITY OF VERNON.
17 THE THING I MAINLY WANTED TO EXPRESS TO YOU TODAY IS SIMILAR
18 TO WHAT'S BEEN ALREADY SAID AND THAT IS THERE ARE-- THERE IS A
19 LOT OF GOOD THAT'S GOING ON IN THE CITY OF VERNON. THERE ARE A
20 LOT OF GOOD PEOPLE THAT WORK THERE THAT DO A VERY GOOD JOB,
21 PROVIDE VERY GOOD SERVICES TO MY BUSINESS AND THE OTHER
22 BUSINESSES THAT ARE LOCATED THERE. THE FIRE CHIEF KNOWS ME BY
23 NAME, THE POLICE CHIEF KNOWS ME BY NAME. I WOULD STRONGLY
24 ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONSIDER LISTENING TO THE L.A. ECONOMIC
25 DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ABOUT THEIR OPINIONS OF THE CITY OF VERNON



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1 AND WHAT IT MEANS TO THIS REGION. I HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH
2 WANTING TO CHANGE THE STRUCTURE OF HOW THINGS WORK BECAUSE
3 IT'S ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY BROKEN, BUT I THINK WE NEED TO
4 MAKE SURE THAT WHEN WE TAKE THE NEXT STEP, THAT WE'RE NOT
5 TAKING STEPS THAT ARE GOING TO DESTROY THE GOOD THINGS THAT
6 ARE ALREADY THERE. I REALLY WANT TO SEE THE CANCER CUT OUT. I
7 DON'T WANT THE THING DESTROYED, AND THAT'S PRIMARILY THE MAIN
8 POINT I WANTED TO MAKE TODAY BECAUSE I SEE THE PROBLEM, THE
9 POTENTIAL PROBLEM OF NEW PROBLEMS CROPPING UP THAT COULD BE
10 WORSE THAN THE PROBLEMS WE HAVE. I'M NOT SURE IF GIVING
11 PERSONAL OWNERS A VOTE-- I'M A RENTER, SO I WOULDN'T EVEN GET
12 A VOTE, BUT I CAN TELL YOU AS A RENTER, OPERATING A BUSINESS
13 IN VERNON, I WOULD BE MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE WITH PEOPLE THAT
14 ARE MAKING THE DECISIONS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT I OPERATE MY
15 BUSINESS IN, HAVE A TRUE UNDERSTANDING OF BUSINESS AND THE
16 NEEDS OF A BUSINESS COMMUNITY. NINETY RESIDENTS DON'T KNOW HOW
17 TO MAKE DECISIONS FOR A BUSINESS COMMUNITY. THE WAY THE WHOLE
18 PROCESS WORKS, IT'S OBVIOUS IT'S A LITTLE FIEFDOM. THERE HAVE
19 BEEN CHANGES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE AND I'VE SEEN SOME GOOD
20 CHANGES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE RECENTLY. IS IT ENOUGH TO SOLVE
21 THE PROBLEM LONG-TERM THE WAY IT IS RIGHT NOW? ABSOLUTELY NOT.
22 SOMETHING HAS TO CHANGE BUT I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU ALL TO THINK
23 ABOUT, HOW DO YOU WANT THE CITY OF VERNON TO LOOK? DO YOU WANT
24 IT TO BE FULL OF VIBRANT BUSINESSES THE WAY IT IS TODAY OR DO



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1 YOU WANT IT TO BE A GHOST TOWN? I CAN'T AFFORD TO JUST PICK UP
2 AND MOVE, BUT OTHERS WILL. THEY'VE ALREADY SAID SO.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** AGAIN, THAT IS THE CHOICE THAT THEY MAKE,
5 BUT YOU HAVE A NEIGHBORING CITY THAT HAS A VERY GOOD BUSINESS
6 INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL AND THAT'S THE CITY OF COMMERCE. THAT
7 INCLUDES A LOT OF BUSINESSES AND WE HAVE A LOT OF PEOPLE IN
8 THAT CITY, COUNCILMEMBERS AS WELL AS NEIGHBORS AND RESIDENTS
9 THAT ARE VERY RESPECTFUL OF MANY OF THE BUSINESSES THAT ARE
10 THERE AND THEY TOLERATE THE BIG TRUCKS, THEY TOLERATE AN AWFUL
11 LOT. THEY KNOW THEY PAY MORE FOR THEIR STREETS BECAUSE OF THE
12 TRUCKS THAT GO THROUGH THERE, SO YOU SHOULD LOOK NEXTDOOR. IT
13 ISN'T ALL THAT BAD.

14

15 **JULIET GOFF:** NO, I -- THE REASON I ENDED UP IN VERNON IS A
16 LONG STORY THAT DOESN'T NEED TO BE SAID HERE, BUT I'M IN A
17 SITUATION WHERE I TOOK OVER AN EXISTING BUSINESS WITH HEAVY
18 CAPITAL EQUIPMENT THAT I JUST CAN'T PICK UP AND MOVE.

19

20 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO MOVE. YOU MIGHT FIND
21 YOURSELF IN A VERY, VERY DEMOCRATIC MUNICIPALITY.

22

23 **JULIET GOFF:** OH, YOU'RE SUGGESTING THAT WE WOULD BE BROUGHT
24 INTO COMMERCE AND THAT WOULD BE--

25



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1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** NO, I AM NOT SUGGEST THAT. I AM SUGGESTING
2 YOU BECOME A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN WHICH ALL OF THE HOUSING
3 WOULD NOT BE CONTROLLED BY THE CITY, THAT IT WOULD BE OPEN BID
4 SO THAT ANYBODY COULD MOVE INTO THAT HOUSING. I'M NOT DOING
5 ANYTHING OTHER THAN THAT, AND THEY WOULD BE FREE TO VOTE FOR
6 WHOEVER THEY WISH. THEY WOULDN'T BE TOLD WHO TO VOTE FOR.

7

8 **JULIET GOFF:** IF THE STRUCTURE'S GOING TO BE IN THAT SORT OF A
9 STRUCTURE, THEN I AGREE, IT SHOULD BE THAT WAY, ANYONE CAN
10 MOVE IN AND LIVE THERE, BUT THE PROBLEM IS--

11

12 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THAT'S WHAT MY MOTION ASKS--

13

14 **JULIET GOFF:** I REALIZE THAT, BUT IT WILL CREATE OTHER
15 PROBLEMS, MADAME CHAIR, AND THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO SAY.

16

17 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** YOU KNOW, DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES ARE NOT
18 DICTATORSHIPS. THEY REALLY ARE A LITTLE BIT MORE DIFFICULT TO
19 MANAGE AND DEAL WITH, BUT AGAIN, THAT'S WHY THEY'RE
20 DEMOCRATIC, AS EACH OF US GET A VOTE, EACH OF US HAVE AN
21 OPINION AND EACH OF US LIKE TO STATE IT.

22

23 **JULIET GOFF:** THE PROBLEM IS THAT THE PEOPLE THAT REALLY MATTER
24 WHEN THE VOTES ARE BEING TAKEN ARE THE BUSINESSES THAT ARE
25 THERE.



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1

SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR: YOU KNOW, I HATE TO BE DISRESPECTFUL TO
YOU. I WISH BUSINESS MATTERED EVERYWHERE AND THAT WAS THE ONLY
THING, BUT THERE ARE A LOT OF US WHO ARE LIVING ALL ALONG
THERE AND WE HAVE HOMES AND WE HAVE CHILDREN AND WE HAVE
SCHOOLS AND WE HAVE A LOT OF THINGS AND IT DOESN'T ALL
SINGULARLY OPERATE. WE APPRECIATE THE BUSINESSES, THE JOB
CREATION THAT THEY DO, WE ARE CERTAINLY GRATEFUL TO MANY OF
THEM. MY FATHER WORKED IN VERNON YEARS AGO, AND SO WE KNOW
WHAT IT DOES CONTRIBUTE. I DON'T THINK IT SHOULD BE LOOKED
UPON AS SUCH A THREAT.

12

JULIET GOFF: AS SUCH A WHAT?

14

SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR: SUCH A THREAT TO HAVE A DEMOCRATIC VOTE.

16

JULIET GOFF: I'M NOT THREATENED BY DEMOCRACY AT ALL.

18

SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR: WELL, THEN, GOOD, LET'S ENCOURAGE IT IN
VERNON.

21

JULIET GOFF: I'M THREATENED BY STRANGERS COMING THAT DON'T
UNDERSTAND THE--

24



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1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** STRANGERS? AGAIN, THEY WOULD BE RESIDENTS.
2 THEY WOULD BE ENTITLED TO VOTE. I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE,
3 BUT AGAIN, JUST LIKE YOU HAVE A VOTE IN YOUR CITY AND YOUR
4 MUNICIPALITY, THE SAME THING WOULD BE AFFORDED TO THE
5 RESIDENTS OF VERNON.

6

7 **JULIET GOFF:** IN A BEDROOM COMMUNITY, THAT TOTALLY MAKES SENSE,
8 BUT WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE CITY, AS YOU KNOW IT SO WELL--

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** OBVIOUSLY WE'RE NOT TALKING THE SAME
11 LANGUAGE, BUT THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR TESTIMONY.

12

13 **JULIET GOFF:** MY PLEASURE.

14

15 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MR. SACHS, IF YOU WOULD ALSO ADDRESS 14
16 AND 37, WE'D APPRECIATE IT.

17

18 **ARNOLD SACHS:** FIRST OF ALL, I THINK IT'S HIGHLY UNFAIR THAT
19 I'M GOING TO BE GIVEN THREE MINUTES LIKE THESE OTHER SPEAKERS
20 TO ADDRESS THIS ITEM, AND I HAVE TO ADDRESS OTHER ITEMS IN
21 ADDITION TO IT.

22

23 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SIR, ADDRESS THE OTHER ITEMS, PLEASE.O

24



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1 **ARNOLD SACHS:** THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS YOU WERE JUST TALKING
2 ABOUT, SUPERVISOR MOLINA. I'M SAYING, EVERYBODY WAS GIVEN
3 THREE MINUTES TO ADDRESS YOU ON THIS ITEM AND I'M GIVEN THREE
4 MINUTES TO ADDRESS MY WHOLE AGENDA. THAT'S NOT VERY
5 DEMOCRATIC. BUT LET'S JUST TALK ANYWAY. EXCUSE ME? WHY ALL OF
6 A SUDDEN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IS GOING TO COME TO THE
7 RESCUE. I'M ALMOST REMINDED OF THE FIASCO WITH M.L.K. HOSPITAL
8 WITH THIS FIASCO, WHERE GET THE MONEY, \$300 MILLION IS ROLLING
9 IN EVERY YEAR UNTIL SOMEBODY IN WASHINGTON SAID, "NOPE, YOU'VE
10 GOT TO PASS THE TEST" AND THEN YOU GOT ANTSYIT'S SO WHY ALL OF
11 A SUDDEN? TEN, 15 YEARS NOW YOU'VE BEEN SITTING ON THE BOARD
12 OF SUPERVISORS AND NOW ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT
13 A CONFLICT OF INTEREST. WHEN I BRING UP THE CONFLICT OF
14 INTEREST THAT OCCURRED IN METRO, NO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS HERE.
15 THAT'S STRICTLY ABOUT THE MONEY, BUT THAT'S WHAT THIS IS,
16 ABOUT THE MONEY. YOU'RE GOING TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC INTEREST
17 HERE IN THE CITIES AROUND VERNON BY DECIDING THAT YOU KNOW
18 BEST TO MAKE THEIR HOUSING MORE DEMOCRATIC. IT SHOULD BE
19 DEMOCRATIC, BUT IT'S LIKE A COMPANY TOWN. WHERE THE COMPANIES
20 CREATE-- WHERE IS THE TOWN IN BORON THAT HAD THE MINE, BRING
21 THE WORKERS IN? IT'S A SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP, BUT THAT'S A
22 DIFFERENT STORY. ITEM NUMBER 14, MA'AM, BECAUSE IN A
23 DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, I'M NOT GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK. I
24 WAS JUST CURIOUS TO KNOW WHY THIS ITEM WAS-- IT SAYS HERE THAT
25 THE BOARD WILL INDEPENDENTLY CONSIDER AND REACH ITS ON



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1 CONCLUSIONS REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE PROJECT,
2 FIND ON THE BASIS BEFORE THE BOARD THAT THERE IS NO
3 SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE THE PROJECT WILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT
4 EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT, APPROVE AND INSTRUCT THE CHAIR TO
5 SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO ESTABLISH A
6 CONTROLLED ACCESS HIGHWAY DESIGNATION AND RELINQUISHING ACCESS
7 CONTROL FOR STATE ROUTE 125. SO ON THE ONE HAND, YOU'RE
8 ESTABLISHING CONTROLLED ACCESS HIGHWAY DESIGNATION BUT ON THE
9 OTHER HAND YOU'RE RELINQUISHING A STATE-- RELINQUISHING ACCESS
10 CONTROL FOR STATE ROUTE 126 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PROPOSED
11 CONSTRUCTION OF STATE ROUTE 126 COMMERCE CENTER DRIVE
12 INTERCHANGE. SO WHICH IS IT? WE HAVE CONTROL OR WE'RE
13 RELINQUISHING CONTROL?

14

15 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. SACHS.

16

17 **ARNOLD SACHS:** THANK YOU FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS YOU HAVE
18 EXHIBITED AS NORMAL. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

19

20 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** NEXT WE HAVE GEORGE MIHLATEN TO ADDRESS
21 OUR ITEM. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. SACHS. MR. MIHLATEN?

22

23 **GEORGE MIHLATEN:** MADAME CHAIR, GEORGE MIHLATEN. I APOLOGIZE, I
24 SIGNED IN TO SPEAK ON ITEM 5, BUT AS MY CHILDREN WILL TELL
25 YOU, I CANNOT OPERATE A COMPUTER, SO I APOLOGIZE. I'M GEORGE



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1 MIHLATEN. I'M A PARTNER WITH THE LAW FIRM OF LATHAM AND
2 WATKINS AND I REPRESENT THE CITY OF VERNON. I WILL TRY TO BE
3 BRIEF. HOPEFULLY DELIVERED TO EACH OF YOUR OFFICES TODAY WAS A
4 LETTER FROM MARK WHITWORTH WHO IS THE NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR
5 FOR THE CITY OF VERNON. MR. WHITWORTH WAS APPOINTED
6 ADMINISTRATOR FOR VERNON IN JULY. HE'S BEEN WITH THE CITY FOR
7 22 YEARS, ALL OF WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. MR. WHITWORTH ALSO
8 SERVES AS CHIEF OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS CITY
9 ADMINISTRATOR. VERNON IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT TO THE REGION.
10 ALMOST 50,000 PEOPLE WORK EVERY DAY IN THE CITY. MOST OF THE
11 50,000 PEOPLE WHO WORK IN VERNON LIVE IN THE SURROUNDING
12 COMMUNITIES. THESE HARD-WORKING MEN AND WOMEN ARE EMPLOYED BY
13 1,800 BUSINESSES IN THE CITY. THE CITY GENERATES SOME \$300
14 MILLION IN TAX REVENUES FOR THE STATE AND FOR THE COUNTY AND
15 FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. THE REGIONAL IMPACT OF THE CITY OF
16 VERNON IS OVER \$5 BILLION TO THE REGION EACH YEAR. IN 2007,
17 THE COSMO STUDY RANKED VERNON-- THE TOP CITY OF 13 INDUSTRIAL
18 CITIES IT EVALUATED WITH VERNON COMING IN ABOVE LOS ANGELES,
19 CARSON, INDUSTRY AND MANY OTHER CITIES. THE CITY IS PROUD OF
20 THE FACT IT WAS NAMED ONE OF THE PLACES IN THE REGION BEST TO
21 DO BUSINESS BY THE L.A. E.D.C.. AS MR. WHITWORTH NOTES, VERNON
22 HAS BEEN THE RECIPIENT WHY NOT OF INTENSE SCRUTINY OF LATE AND
23 FOR SEVERAL YEARS AS THE CHAIRPERSON INDICATES AND FOR GOOD
24 REASON. THE CITY ACCEPTS THAT CRITICISM AND HAS BEEN WORKING
25 HARD TO RESOLVE MANY OF THE ISSUES LONG BEFORE IT BECAME THE



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1 FOCUS OF THE SCRUTINY. LET ME BE CLEAR TO THE FACTS. OVER THE
2 PAST DECADE, THREE FORMER CITY OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN CHARGED
3 WITH CRIMES, ALTHOUGH ONE HAS BEEN CONVICTED. THE CITY HAS
4 WORKED PROACTIVELY TO ADDRESS CONCERNS THAT SURFACED WITH
5 RESPECT TO ITS FORMER OFFICIALS THAT HAVE BEEN CHARGED. IN THE
6 CASE OF ONE ELECTED OFFICIAL WHO WAS EVENTUALLY CONVICTED OF A
7 CRIME OF NOT LIVING IN THE CITY WHEN HE WAS REQUIRED TO LIVE
8 IN THE CITY, THE CITY TOOK THE EXTRAORDINARY STEP OF SUING
9 THAT INDIVIDUAL WHILE HE HELD OFFICE. SIMILARLY, THE CITY
10 PLACED ITS PRIOR CITY ADMINISTRATOR ON ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE
11 PENDING THE CITY'S REVIEW OF POTENTIALLY PROHIBITED
12 TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING A FAMILY MEMBER. THE CITY TOOK THAT
13 ACTION BEFORE THE INDIVIDUAL WAS CHARGED. TODAY, NONE OF THOSE
14 FORMER OFFICIALS HAVE ANY DEALINGS WITH THE CITY OF VERNON.
15 MANY CITIES HAVE HAD TROUBLING INCIDENTS WITHOUT THE KIND OF
16 AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE TAKEN AS HAS BEEN TAKEN BY THE CITY OF
17 VERNON, YET THE COUNTY PROPOSES HERE TO ATTEMPT A
18 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WITH RESPECT TO THEIR HOUSING
19 POLICIES. THE CITY HAS RETOOLED AND MODERNIZED ITS CITY
20 ATTORNEY'S FUNCTION AND THE CITY HAS TERMINATED THE PROVISIONS
21 OF ALL EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS THAT LED TO COMPENSATION LEVELS
22 THAT HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MUCH DISCUSSION. MR. WHITWORTH,
23 THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, EARNS AN ANNUAL SALARY OF \$210,000.
24 THE CITY SALARIES ARE POSTED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE. WHY IS THE
25 CITY HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL? IT DELIVERS GREAT SERVICES TO ITS



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1 COMMUNITY AND TO THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES, POLICE SERVICES,
2 FIRE SERVICES AND OTHER SERVICES.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU SO MUCH. THANK YOU SO MUCH, MR.
5 MIHLATEN.

6

7 **GEORGE MIHLATEN:** WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOU ALLOW THE CITY OF
8 VERNON--

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU SO MUCH.

11

12 **GEORGE MIHLATEN:** TO CLEAN UP THE THINGS IT HAS BEEN WORKING ON
13 INCLUDING ITS HOUSING POLICIES

14

15 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WELL, HOPEFULLY IT WILL HAVE PLENTY OF
16 TIME TO CLEAN ITSELF AND THERE WILL BE NO NEED FOR THIS
17 LEGISLATION, BUT MAYBE YOU MIGHT ENCOURAGE THEM TO DO THAT.

18

19 **GEORGE MIHLATEN:** THANK YOU.

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. WHAT WE HAVE BEFORE US IS ITEM
22 NUMBER 5, ITEM 14 AND MICHAEL?

23

24 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** LET ME ASK A QUESTION. COUNTY COUNSEL STATED
25 THAT IN SOME STATES, BUSINESSES ARE ALLOWED THE RIGHT TO VOTE.



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1 FOR THAT TO OCCUR, DOES THE CITY HAVE THAT AUTHORITY TO MAKE
2 SUCH AN ORDINANCE, OR WOULD THAT REQUIRE A STATE ACT TO
3 AUTHORIZE THE CITY TO DO THAT?

4

5 **ANDREA ORDIN, COUNSEL:** I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND THE QUESTION
6 ENTIRELY. IF YOU'D SAY IT ONE MORE TIME, SUPERVISOR.

7

8 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** TESTIMONY WAS STATED THAT THERE ARE SOME
9 STATES THAT ALLOW BUSINESS OWNERS TO VOTE IN AN ELECTION, AND
10 THE QUESTION IS, DOES THE CITY COUNCIL HAVE THAT AUTHORITY TO
11 PASS SUCH AN ORDINANCE, DOES IT REQUIRE A STATE LAW TO
12 REQUIRE-- TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY TO DO THAT?

13

14 **ANDREA ORDIN, COUNSEL:** I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE CITY ALONE
15 CAN DO THAT. IT WILL DEPEND ON WHAT KIND OF A CITY IT IS, A
16 CHARTER CITY OR NOT A CHARTER CITY, WHETHER YOU NEED EVEN A
17 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WHICH IS WHAT WE ARE CONSIDERING HERE
18 TO PUT BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE.

19

20 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** I SHARE WITH SUPERVISOR MOLINA THE CONCERNS
21 THAT ARE BEING RAISED. I HAD OFFERED A SUGGESTION AS WELL THAT
22 IF THE CITY OF VERNON WAS TO BECOME ANNEXED, THAT THE CITY OF
23 COMMERCE, WHO ALREADY HAVE A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF
24 VERNON'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MAKES A COMPATIBLE FIT BECAUSE
25 THEY'RE BOTH BUSINESS ORIENTED, UNLIKE SOME OF THE CITIES THAT



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1 ARE LOOKING UPON THEM AS A CASH COW THAT WOULD ONLY JEOPARDIZE
2 THOSE JOBS, FORCE THEM OUT OF OUR COUNTY AND STATE, BUT I
3 WOULD LIKE TO SEE ALL OF THE VARIOUS OPTIONS MOVE FORWARD SO
4 WE CAN GET A DISCUSSION AND DECISION ON HOW BEST TO ENSURE
5 THAT THE INTEGRITY OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY CREATING JOBS, A
6 VITAL ECONOMIC RESOURCE FOR THE COUNTY'S SERVICES FROM THE
7 SHERIFF TO THE CORONER TO THE HOSPITALS ARE ABLE TO RETAIN A
8 BUSINESS FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT AND NOT BE BOGGED DOWN WITH
9 REGULATIONS AND TAXES AND FEES. SO BY SUPPORTING THE MOTION
10 THAT SUPERVISOR MOLINA HAS TO KEEP THE DISCUSSION FLUID
11 BECAUSE WE DON'T KNOW ALL THE ANSWERS BUT WE OUGHT TO BE
12 DISCUSSING, AND IF IT REQUIRES STATE LEGISLATION, THEY SHOULD
13 BE ENGAGED IN SOME MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS AND INCLUDE THE CITY
14 OF VERNON SO THAT A VIABLE SOLUTION COULD BE ADOPTED FOR THE
15 FUTURE.

16
17 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. SO THE ITEM IS BEFORE US AND
18 I'D LIKE TO MOVE THE ITEM, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY,
19 OR-- OKAY. IS THERE ANY OBJECTION? ITEM 5, 14 AND 37, IF
20 THERE'S NO OBJECTION, SO ORDERED ON THOSE ITEMS. ALL RIGHT.
21 I'D LIKE TO TAKE UP ITEM NUMBER 2. THAT IS YOUR MOTION. AND
22 SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH, AS I READ THE C.A.O.'S REPORT, I WANT
23 TO UNDERSTAND CLEARLY, WE'RE ALREADY DOING THIS, IT WOULD BE--
24 IT SEEMS AS THOUGH, AND IT'S 150 GRAND TO DO IT AGAIN. I HAVE



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1 A PROBLEM WITH HAVING TO PAY ANY OF THIS MONEY IF WE'RE
2 ALREADY DOING THIS.

3

4 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** LET ME JUST SAY, THE MOTION WAS NOT TO
5 REQUEST A FULL AUDIT BUT PERHAPS TO HAVE COUNTY COUNSEL AND--
6 THE MOTION DOES NOT REQUEST A FULL AUDIT. IT ONLY PROPOSES A
7 VERY QUICK AND INDEPENDENT REVIEW BY THE BOARD'S OWN CERTIFIED
8 ACTUARY AND CERTIFIED ACCOUNT TO CONFIRM THAT THE COUNTIES AND
9 THIS BOARD ARE ADOPTING THE NUMBERS SUPPORTED BY
10 L.A.C.E.R.A.'S OWN EXPERTS. IT CAN BE DONE VERY QUICKLY AND AN
11 INDEPENDENT REASSURANCE TO THE BOARD THAT THE NUMBERS THAT WE
12 REPRESENT TO OUR INVESTORS, TO THE PUBLIC ARE ACCURATE AND
13 CONSISTENT WITH TRANSPARENCY AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY. THE
14 EXPECTED RATE OF RETURN THAT L.A.C.E.R.A.'S ASSUMING ON THE
15 PENSION PORTFOLIO IS A CENTRAL FACTOR TO DETERMINE THE
16 PENSION'S FUNDING LEVEL. L.A.C.E.R.A.'S ACTUARY IS
17 RECOMMENDING A RANGE FROM 7.25 TO 7.5 PERCENT, PREFERRING THE
18 LOWER FIGURE, BUT THIS VIEW IS BASED UPON ADVICE FROM
19 L.A.C.E.R.A.'S PORTFOLIO CONSULTANT WHICH IS WILSHIRE
20 ASSOCIATES, WHICH FORECASTS THAT L.A.C.E.R.A.'S PORTFOLIO WILL
21 LIKELY ONLY YIELD 7.1 PERCENT OVER TIME. MEANWHILE,
22 L.A.C.E.R.A.'S EXPECTED RATE OF RETURN REMAINS AT 7.75 PERCENT
23 WHICH L.A.C.E.R.A.'S EXPERTS BELIEVE IS VERY, VERY AGGRESSIVE.
24 NOW, IN THE MILLIMAN REPORT, WHICH WE ALL RECEIVED, AND THEY
25 ARE THE ACTUARIAL CONSULTANT FOR L.A.C.E.R.A., I WOULD LIKE TO



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1 READ WHAT THEY SAID. I'M QUOTING AND READING FROM THEIR REPORT
2 ON PAGE 2, "THE MOST COMPELLING REASON TO LOWER THE INVESTMENT
3 RETURN ASSUMPTION IS THE SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION AND THE
4 EXPECTATIONS OF FUTURE INVESTMENT RETURNS. THE CURRENT 7.75
5 PERCENT ASSUMPTION IS NO LONGER EXPECTED TO BE ACHIEVED IN
6 EITHER THE SHORT OR LONG-TERM. CURRENT CAPITAL MARKET
7 ASSUMPTIONS PREDICT AN EXPECTED RETURN BASED ON THE
8 L.A.C.E.R.A.'S ASSET ALLOCATION ON 7.5 PERCENT OR LESS. FOR
9 EXAMPLE, THE EXPECTED MEDIUM RETURN DETERMINED BY
10 L.A.C.E.R.A.'S INVESTMENT CONSULTANT IS ABOUT 7.1 PERCENT. THE
11 CURRENT INVESTMENT RETURN ASSUMPTION STILL FALLS IN THE BEST
12 ESTIMATE RANGE UNDER THE ACTUARIAL STANDARDS OF PRACTICE.
13 HOWEVER, OUR ANALYSIS SHOWS THERE'S LESS THAN A 50 PERCENT
14 PROBABILITY THAT A 7.75 PERCENT INVESTMENT RETURN WOULD BE
15 ACHIEVED GOING FORWARD, SO WE WOULD CHARACTERIZE THE
16 ASSUMPTION AS AGGRESSIVE. THIS CAN CAUSE SEVERAL ISSUES WHEN
17 FUNDING A PENSION PLAN, IN PARTICULAR WHEN THE ASSUMPTION IS
18 NOT MET. IT TENDS TO PUSH COSTS OFF INTO THE FUTURE WHICH MAY
19 CREATE INEQUITY BETWEEN THE GENERATIONS OF TAXPAYERS.
20 THEREFORE WE RECOMMEND THAT THE INVESTMENT RETURN ASSUMPTION
21 BE LOWERED TO 7.25 PERCENT OR 7.5 PERCENT." SO THE QUESTIONS I
22 WOULD LIKE-- AND THIS IS FROM THEIR REPORT, THEY'RE SAYING
23 THAT-- WHAT HAS WILSHIRE ASSOCIATES FORECAST AS L.A.C.E.R.A.'S
24 EXPECTED RATE OF RETURN BASED ON ITS MIX OF PORTFOLIO ASSETS?
25 IS IT 7.7 PERCENT?



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1

2 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** GOOD MORNING, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

3

4 **C.E.O. FUJIOKA:** CAN I MAKE A COUPLE OF QUICK COMMENTS. WE HAVE
5 A NUMBER OF PEOPLE HERE INCLUDING STAFF FROM OUR TREASURER TAX
6 COLLECTOR, FROM L.A.C.E.R.A., FROM AUDITOR-CONTROLLER AND, OF
7 COURSE, FROM OUR OFFICE. WE DID SEND A MEMO FORWARD TO
8 CLARIFY, TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON HOW WE FULFILL OUR
9 RESPONSIBILITIES AS IT RELATES TO THIS PARTICULAR ISSUE. WE
10 WANT TO MAKE IT CLEARER THAT WE RESPECT THE SUPERVISORS' RIGHT
11 TO ASK FOR THIS INFORMATION BUT WANT TO MAKE IT ABSOLUTELY
12 CLEAR TO THE BOARD AND THOSE WATCHING OR LISTENING TO THESE
13 PROCEEDINGS THAT THE FOUR ENTITIES REPRESENTED AROUND THESE
14 TABLES HERE TAKE THIS JOB VERY, VERY SERIOUSLY, AND I WANT TO
15 ASK GREG TO START, BECAUSE ALTHOUGH I UNDERSTAND WHAT THE
16 MILLIMAN REPORT STATED, IT'S ALSO REPORT TO NOTE THAT AT ONE
17 POINT IN THEIR PRESENTATION, THEY STATED THAT THE 7.75
18 INVESTMENT RETURN WAS REASONABLE. WE ALSO HAVE TO LOOK AT THE
19 OUR INVESTMENTS NOT IN THE SHORT-TERM, BECAUSE THIS IS ONE OF
20 THE WORST, I THINK, DOWNTURNS THIS COUNTY HAS HAD TO SUSTAIN
21 IN MANY, MANY YEARS, BUT OVER NOT JUST A THREE-YEAR OR A 10-
22 YEAR PERIOD, BUT, IN FACT, OVER A 30-YEAR PERIOD. SO, GREGG?
23



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1 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** SO THE QUESTION IS, IS L.A.C.E.R.A.'S
2 EXPECTED RATE OF RETURN BASED ON ITS MIX OF PORTFOLIO ASSETS,
3 IS IT 7.75 PERCENT?

4

5 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** GOOD MORNING, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. THANK
6 YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS YOUR BOARD. FIRST OF ALL,
7 THE ISSUE OF ASSUMPTIONS THAT SET THE PLANNED FUNDING IS A
8 FAULTY DECISION BY THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS. MY PERSONAL VIEWS
9 ARE MORE TO HELP FACILITATE THE PROCESS RATHER THAN DETERMINE
10 WHAT IS AN APPROPRIATE ASSUMED RATE. WITH THAT, THE BOARD OF
11 INVESTMENTS DOES LOOK AT OUR ASSET ECONOMIC ASSUMPTIONS AND
12 ALL THE ASSUMPTIONS OF THE PLAN ONCE EVERY THREE YEARS AND
13 THEY ARE LOOKING AT THIS ISSUE AS WE CURRENTLY SPEAK. THEY ARE
14 REQUIRED UNDERNEATH THEIR FIDUCIARY OBLIGATIONS TO THE PLAN,
15 TO CONSULT WITH PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS, INCLUDING ACTUARIES
16 AND INVESTMENT ADVISORS IN EVALUATING THESE ASSUMPTIONS.
17 SPECIFICALLY TO YOUR QUESTION, THE ACTUARY DID PROVIDE A RANGE
18 OF REASONABLE ASSUMPTIONS FROM THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS TO
19 CONSIDER AND THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS NEEDS TO CONSIDER A
20 VARIETY OF SOURCES OF INFORMATION IN MAKING THAT
21 DETERMINATION. AGAIN, THIS GOES A VERY LONG-TERM INVESTMENT
22 ASSUMPTION OVER DECADES, AND SPEAKING WITH OUR INVESTMENT
23 CONSULTANTS, THEY'RE LOOKING AT A MUCH SHORTER TIME FRAME.
24 THEY'RE LOOKING AT A 10-YEAR PERIOD, AND IN THE BOARD OF
25 INVESTMENTS CONSULTANTS WILSHIRE, THEY LOOKED AT A 10-YEAR



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1 PERIOD AND THEIR REASONABLE EXPECTATION OVER A 10-YEAR PERIOD
2 WAS 7.1 PERCENT BASED ON THE ASSET ALLOCATION CURRENTLY IN
3 PLACE.

4

5 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** AND DO YOUR INVESTMENT CONSULTANTS AND THE
6 C.I.O. TAKE THE POSITION THAT 7.75 PERCENT IS ACHIEVABLE AND
7 THE RECOMMENDED RATE OF RETURN FOR THIS TRIANNUAL REVIEW
8 EXERCISE?

9

10 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** I'M SORRY. COULD YOU REPEAT THAT?

11

12 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** DO YOUR INVESTMENT CONSULTANTS AND THE C.I.O.
13 TAKE THE POSITION THAT THE 7.75 PERCENT IS ACHIEVABLE AND THAT
14 THE RECOMMENDED RATE OF RETURN FOR THIS TRIANNUAL REVIEW
15 EXERCISE?

16

17 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT WILSHIRE, THE
18 INVESTMENT CONSULTANT, HAS NOT TAKEN A POSITION ON THE LONG-
19 TERM RATE, BUT THEY HAVE TAKEN A POSITION THAT IN THE SHORT-
20 TERM, IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS, THAT 7.1 PERCENT WOULD BE A
21 REASONABLE RATE BASED ON THE CURRENT ALLOCATION OF THE
22 PORTFOLIO ASSETS.

23



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1 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WHICH OF L.A.C.E.R.A.'S STAFF OR EXPERTS TAKE
2 THE VIEW THAT THE L.A.C.E.R.A. PORTFOLIO WILL YIELD 7.75
3 PERCENT OVER TIME?

4

5 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS CONSULTANT, THE
6 ACTUARY, IS LOOKING AT A LONG-TERM INVESTMENT HORIZON.

7

8 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** AND WHO ARE THEY?

9

10 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** THAT WOULD BE MILLIMAN, THE ACTUARIAL
11 CONSULTING FIRM. WHAT THEY'RE LOOKING AT IS SAY LONG-TERM
12 INVESTMENT HORIZON BASED ON THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THEM.
13 AS YOU HAVE MENTIONED, THEY PUT TOGETHER A REASONABLE RANGE
14 FROM WHICH TO SELECT AN APPROPRIATE RETURN INVESTMENT
15 ASSUMPTION. THAT'S SOMETHING THAT THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS
16 WILL BE TAKING A LOOK AT.

17

18 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** IN PARAGRAPH 2 ON PAGE 2 OF THEIR REPORT,
19 THEY STATE, "OUR ANALYSIS SHOWS THERE IS LESS THAN A 50
20 PERCENT PROBABILITY THAT 7.75 PERCENT INVESTMENT RETURN WILL
21 BE ACHIEVED GOING FORWARD. SO WE WOULD CHARACTERIZE THE
22 ASSUMPTION AS AGGRESSIVE."

23

24 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** WITHIN THE RANGE OF ASSUMPTIONS, I BELIEVE
25 IT WAS FROM 6 PERCENT TO OVER 8 PERCENT. THE BOARD INVESTMENTS



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1 NEEDS TO SELECT ONE ASSUMPTION WITHIN THAT RANGE. I THINK YOU
2 COULD CHARACTERIZE WITHIN THAT REASONABLE RANGE OF CHOICES,
3 SOME WILL BE MORE CONSERVATIVE, SOME WILL BE MORE AGGRESSIVE.,
4 THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS HAS UNDERNEATH THEIR FIDUCIARY
5 OBLIGATION UNDER THE DUTY OF LOYALTY, THE REQUIREMENT TO LOOK
6 AT ALL DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THIS DECISION, PARAMOUNT BEING
7 FUNDING OF THE PLAN AND UTMOST IN THEIR MINDS, BUT THEY MAY
8 ALSO LOOK AT OTHER FACTORS AND CONSIDERATIONS.

9

10 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THEY ALSO INCLUDE QUOTING, "IT TENDS TO PUSH
11 COSTS INTO THE FUTURE WHICH MAY CREATE INIQUITY BETWEEN
12 GENERATIONS OF TAXPAYERS. THEREFORE WE RECOMMEND THAT THE
13 INVESTMENT RETURN SHOULD BE LOWERED TO 7.25 PERCENT\ OR 7.5
14 PERCENT." THAT'S PAGE TWO OF THEIR REPORT.

15

16 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** I THINK THE MAIN CONSIDERATION THAT THE
17 BOARD OF INVESTMENTS LOOKS AT IS THE LIABILITY STREAM THAT HAS
18 ALREADY BEEN PROMISED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. THAT IS A
19 GIVEN WITH REGARDS TO ACTUALLY THE BENEFITS THAT NEED TO BE
20 PAID. SO THE QUESTION THEN COMES DOWN TO FUNDING. HOW DO YOU
21 FUND THAT? DO YOU EXPECT THE EMPLOYER TO PUT MORE MONEY AT THE
22 BEGINNING OF THE PROCESS TO FUND THAT BENEFIT PAYMENT STREAM
23 OR MORE MONEY AT THE END OF THE PROCESS? THE ONE THING THAT WE
24 DON'T KNOW IS WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE ACTUAL PORTFOLIO
25 PERFORMANCE IS GOING TO BE, ALTHOUGH THE CURRENT ASSUMPTION IS



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1 7.5 PERCENT. LAST FISCAL YEAR, WHICH HAS BEEN AUDITED, WE
2 RETURNED TO WELL OVER 7.75 PERCENT, WERETURNED OVER 11
3 PERCENT. THIS YEAR WE'RE ALSO HAVING A VERY GOOD YEAR, SO IN
4 THE LONG RUN, YOU'RE TAKING LONG-TERM VIEWS OF THE ASSUMPTION.
5 THIS IS SOMETHING THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS IS WEIGHING VERY
6 HEAVILY ON WHAT SHOULD THE PROPER ASSUMPTION BE. IT MAY BE
7 THAT IT WILL BE-- REMAIN THE SAME, IT MAY BE THAT ACTUALLY
8 THEY WILL BE CAUSED TO LOWER THE ASSUMPTION.

9

10 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** YOU SAID THE RANGE BETWEEN 5 AND 6 PERCENT TO
11 8 PERCENT. RIGHT?

12

13 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** I WOULD HAVE TO GO BACK AND REFRESH MY
14 MEMORY ON THE ACTUARY'S RANGES.

15

16 **SUP. ANOTONOVICH:** YOU JUST MENTIONED IT.

17

18 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** I BELIEVE IT'S SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 6 AND 8
19 PERCENT.

20

21 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** BETWEEN 6 AND 8. SO YOU'RE COME DOWN AT 7.75
22 PERCENT, WHICH IS VERY AGGRESSIVE AND BEING VERY OPTIMISTIC,
23 VERSUS BEING CLOSER TO 7 PERCENT.

24



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1 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** AGAIN, I WOULD SAY THAT IS WHAT THE
2 ACTUARIALS WOULD SAY WOULD BE A REASONABLE RANGE AND THEY HAVE
3 TO MAKE A CHOICE WITHIN THAT REASONABLE RANGE.

4

5 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** BUT THEY SAID AGGRESSIVE, TOO, ON PAGE TWO.
6 THE QUESTION ON COUNTING CERTAIN ASSETS ALSO AS PART OF
7 L.A.C.E.R.A. HAS COME INTO QUESTION. AGAIN, READINGS FROM THE
8 MILLIMAN REPORT ON PAGE 20, THEY STATE, "FOR THE JUNE 30TH,
9 2009 ACTUARIAL EVALUATION, THE STAR RESERVE WAS INCLUDED IN
10 THE VALUATION ASSETS BUT NO LIABILITY WAS INCLUDED FOR
11 POTENTIAL BENEFITS PAYABLE FROM THE RESERVE. THE QUESTION HAS
12 BEEN RAISED WHETHER THE STAR RESERVE IS A VESTED BENEFIT AND
13 THEREFORE TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE PAYMENT OF FUTURE
14 STAR BENEFITS. THIS IS A LEGAL QUESTION THAT IS OUTSIDE THE
15 SCOPE OF OUR EXPERTISE. IF THE STAR RESERVE IS HELD TO BE A
16 VESTED BENEFIT, THEN WE RECOMMEND THAT IT BE EXCLUDED FROM THE
17 VALUATION ASSETS. IF THE STAR RESERVE IS DETERMINED NOT TO BE
18 A VESTED BENEFIT, THEN THE APPROPRIATE TREATMENT IS LESS
19 CLEAR." SO THE QUESTION IS, COULD YOU EXPLAIN THE ORIGINS OF
20 THE STAR C.O.L.A. FUND PROGRAM AND ITS INTENDED PURPOSE.

21

22 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** ABSOLUTELY. IN 1994, THE COUNTY OF LOS
23 ANGELES ISSUED PENSION OBLIGATION BONDS TO FUND THE RETIREMENT
24 SYSTEM. THIS CAUSED OVER \$2 BILLION TO BE DEPOSITED WITH THE
25 RETIREMENT TRUST. THOSE RETIREMENT MONIES WERE INVESTED IN THE



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1 PORTFOLIO. AS PART OF THAT PENSION OBLIGATION BOND AGREEMENT
2 FROM 1994, IF THERE WAS ANY SURPLUS FUNDING REALIZED DURING
3 THAT PERIOD, SOME OF THAT MONEY WOULD BE SET ASIDE FOR THE
4 PAYMENT OR OFFSET OF FUTURE COUNTY CONTRIBUTIONS. THE MONEY
5 WOULD STAY IN THE TRUST BUT IT WOULD BE A CREDIT UPON WHICH
6 THE EMPLOYER COULD DRAW DOWN UPON WHEN PUTTING NEW MONEY INTO
7 THE PLAN. THERE WAS OVER \$3 BILLION CREDITED TO THAT ACCOUNT
8 AND THE COUNTY HAS ENJOYED DRAWING DOWN UPON THAT CREDIT.
9 ADDITIONALLY, 25 PERCENT OF THOSE REALIZED SURPLUS FUNDINGS
10 WERE SET ASIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES
11 THAT MAY OR MAY NOT BE GRANTED IN THE FUTURE FOR RETIREES.
12 THAT RESERVE WAS COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE STAR RESERVE, SO
13 THERE WAS APPROXIMATELY \$1 BILLION SET ASIDE IN THAT RESERVE
14 FOR FUTURE COST OF LIVING BENEFIT PAYMENTS THAT MAY OR MAY NOT
15 BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT FOR RETIREES IN THE
16 FUTURE WHEN THEIR INFLATION DAMAGE EXCEEDS 20 PERCENT.

17
18 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** IS THE STAR C.O.L.A. INVESTED WITH THE
19 RETIREES?

20
21 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** THE CALIFORNIA STATE LAW PROVIDES THE BOARD
22 OF RETIREMENT THE AUTHORITY TO EITHER GRANT AD HOC BENEFITS
23 WHICH MEANS THEY WOULD REQUIRE APPROVAL EVERY YEAR, OR TO VEST
24 THOSE BENEFITS. THIS CHANGE WAS MADE BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE.
25 IF MY MEMORY SERVES ME CORRECTLY, IT'S APPROXIMATELY THE YEAR



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1 2000, COULD HAVE BEEN 2001, BUT THEY ALLOWED THE BOARD OF
2 RETIREMENT TO INVEST THAT AMOUNT OF INFLATION DAMAGE THAT WAS
3 IN EXISTENCE AT ANY CURRENT YEAR. THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT DID
4 TAKE STEPS TO VEST THAT BENEFIT AND THE ASSETS WERE REMOVED
5 FROM THE STAR RESERVE AND PLACED INTO THE VALUATION ASSETS TO
6 COVER THAT LIABILITY.

7

8 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** IS IT TRUE THAT L.A.C.E.R.A.'S COUNSEL HAS
9 TAKEN THE POSITION THAT THE STAR C.O.L.A. FUND IS VESTED WITH
10 THE RETIREES?

11

12 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** AGAIN, FOR THOSE BENEFITS THAT HAVE ALREADY
13 BEEN GRANTED BY THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT AND VESTED, THOSE ARE
14 VESTED BENEFITS. FUTURE INFLATION DAMAGE, WHICH HAS NOT BEEN
15 SUSTAINED, IS NOT VESTED BUT COULD BE ADDRESSED BY FUTURE
16 ACTIONS OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT.

17

18 **C.E.O. FUJIOKA:** THAT'S THE REAL IMPORTANT DISTINCTION. GETTING
19 BACK TO THE 7.75, AS OF TODAY, IS NO OTHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM
20 IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA THAT HAS AN ESTIMATE LOWER THAN
21 7.75 AND, IN FACT, A LARGE NUMBER OF THEM ARE OVER 8 PERCENT
22 RIGHT NOW. LOOKING AT A DEGREE OF REASONABLENESS, BECAUSE,
23 AGAIN, WE'RE LOOKING AT AN ESTIMATE THAT SHOULD-- THAT SHOULD
24 GO OVER NOT A 10 YEAR PERIOD BUT A 30 TO 40 YEAR PERIOD, AND
25 BUT WE'RE TRYING TO AVOID RIGHT NOW, WE'RE TRYING TO SPEAK



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1 WITH SOME DEGREE OF CAUTION, IS THAT TO SET AN ESTIMATE NOW,
2 AT THE LOWEST POINT-- BECAUSE WE ALREADY SAID THIS WOULD BE
3 OUR MOST DIFFICULT YEAR-- AT THE LOWEST POINT IN THE LOCAL AND
4 STATE ECONOMY, I DON'T THINK WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE. I THINK WE
5 NEED TO BE REASONABLE AT THIS POINT IN TIME BECAUSE THE IMPACT
6 IT WILL HAVE, NOT ONLY TO OUR-- TO THE IMPACT RETIREMENT
7 SYSTEM, BUT EVEN GREATER IMPACT TO OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
8 AND WHAT THAT WILL RESULT IN TERMS OF INCREASING OUR
9 OBLIGATION AND REQUIRING FUNDS THAT WE KNOW ARE NOT AVAILABLE
10 AT THIS POINT IN TIME, WHEN IT'S NOT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.

11

12 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** L.A.C.E.R.A.'S COUNCIL HAS TAKEN THE POSITION
13 THAT THE STAR C.O.L.A. FUND IS VESTED RETIREES ON THAT BASIS
14 ANSWERS THE L.A.C.E.R.A. ACTUARY QUESTION THAT THE STAR
15 C.O.L.A. FUND SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN COUNTING THE ASSETS OF
16 THE L.A.C.E.R.A. INVESTMENT FUND.

17

18 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** CAN YOU RESTATE YOUR QUESTION, PLEASE?

19

20 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** L.A.C.E.R.A.'S ACTUARY QUESTION THAT THE STAR
21 C.O.L.A. FUND SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN COUNTING THE ASSETS OF
22 THE L.A.C.E.R.A. INVESTMENT FUND.

23

24 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** AGAIN, I'M CONFUSING ON THE QUESTION.

25



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1 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** ARE YOU USING THE STAR C.O.L.A. IN THE
2 INVESTMENT FUNDS?

3

4 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** I CAN INTERPRET THAT QUESTION TWO WAYS. THE
5 MONIES THAT WERE SET ASIDE IN THE STAR RESERVE ARE INVESTED ON
6 A DAILY BASIS ALONG WITH ALL OF THE OTHER ASSETS OF THE
7 INVESTMENT TRUST, SO THEY ARE FULLY INVESTED. WITH REGARDS TO
8 APPLICATION TO THE ACTUARIAL EVALUATION, THE BOARD INVESTMENTS
9 DID TAKE ACTION AT THEIR LAST MEETING TO INCLUDE THE STAR
10 RESERVES IN THE CALCULATION OF THE CONTRIBUTION RATES OF THE
11 SYSTEM.

12

13 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** "IF THE STAR RESERVE IS HELD TO BE A VESTED
14 BENEFIT, THEN WE RECOMMEND THAT IT BE EXCLUDED FROM THE
15 VALUATION ASSETS. IF THE STAR RESERVE IS DETERMINED NOT TO BE
16 A VESTED BENEFIT, THEN THE TREATMENT IS LESS CLEAR." THAT'S
17 WHAT MILLIMAN SAYS ON PAGE 20, SO YOU'RE DISAGREEING WITH HIM.

18

19 **C.E.O. FUJIOKA:** I THINK THE BOARD, AS GREGG MENTIONED, THE
20 BOARD OF INVESTMENT HAS ALREADY MADE THAT DETERMINATION.

21

22 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** SO THEY'RE DISAGREEING WITH THEM.

23



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1 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** LAST WEEK, AND ON A MAJORITY VOTE, DECIDED
2 AS THEY DID LAST YEAR, ON A YEAR-TO-YEAR BASIS TO INCLUDE
3 THOSE FUNDS IN THE VALUATION.

4

5 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** AND THAT IS EXACTLY WHY WE NEED TO HAVE AN
6 INDEPENDENT REVIEW IN A 30-DAY TIME FRAME SO THIS BOARD HAS
7 FULL INFORMATION BEFORE US ON ISSUES THAT IMPACT EVERY PERSON,
8 RETIRED AND WORKING, AND BEING SERVED BY THIS COUNTY.
9 CONFIRMING THAT THE COUNTY IS APPLYING THE RIGHT DISCOUNT
10 FACTOR TO LIABILITIES IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THE COUNTY'S
11 UNFUNDED HEALTHCARE LIABILITIES, WHAT IS THE COUNTY'S ASSUMED
12 DISCOUNT FACTOR TO CALCULATE OUR UNFUNDED HEALTHCARE LIABILITY
13 WHICH WAS ESTIMATED LAST WEEK OR TWO WEEKS AGO AT 23.5 BILLION
14 DOLLARS?

15

16 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** I BELIEVE THE RETIREE HEALTHCARE VALUATION,
17 THEY'RE CURRENTLY STUDYING THE DISCOUNT FACTOR AND I DO NOT
18 KNOW WHAT FACTOR THEY'LL BE USING.

19

20 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** DO YOU KNOW-- IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER,
21 DO YOU KNOW HOW IT COMPARES WITH THAT USED BY OTHER
22 MUNICIPALITIES, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE PRIVATE SECTOR?

23

24 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** IF MY RECOLLECTION SERVES ME CORRECTLY, THE
25 DISCOUNT FACTOR THAT WAS USED PREVIOUSLY WAS BASED ON THE



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1 COUNTY'S OWN TREASURY EXPERIENCE, AND I THINK WE'RE RE-
2 ANALYZING THAT TO MAKE SURE THAT IT'S STILL REFLECTIVE OF THE
3 COUNTY'S TREASURY EXPERIENCE.

4

5 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** SO WERE YOU ANALYZING THAT AS THE LIABILITY
6 INCREASED TO \$23 BILLION AND ACTIONS WERE NOT TAKEN TO
7 ALLEVIATE THAT FIGURE WHICH IS ABOUT THE SIZE OF THE ENTIRE
8 BUDGET OF L.A. COUNTY?

9

10 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** I BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE TWO PIECES OF THE
11 VALUATION. ONE IS TO VALUE THE LIABILITY STREAM, WHICH WOULD
12 BE THE BENEFITS THAT WERE PROMISED TO THE EMPLOYEES BY THE
13 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, THE OTHER HALF OF THAT WOULD BE THE
14 FINANCING OF IT AND THAT WOULD IMPACT THE DISCOUNT RATE THAT
15 YOU ARE REFERRING TO ON THE TREASURY.

16

17 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THAT'S THE ISSUE THAT'S REALLY BEING RAISED
18 AND WHY ONCE AGAIN WE NEED THAT INFORMATION. LET ME JUST SAY
19 THIS. THE MOTION IS A SIMPLE REQUEST THAT AN INDEPENDENT
20 EXPERT REPORTING DIRECTLY TO THIS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THROUGH
21 THE AUDITOR-CONTROLLER FOR A BASIC AND INDEPENDENT REVIEW
22 WITHIN 30 DAYS WITH THEIR FINDINGS WHICH CONFIRM THE NUMBERS
23 WE ARE ENDORSING AND RELYING UPON TO DETERMINE L.A.C.E.R.A.'S
24 AND THE HEALTHCARE FUNDING LEVELS ARE ACCURATE, FISCALLY SOUND
25 AND CONSISTENT WITH THE ADVICE OFFERED BY L.A.C.E.R.A.'S HIRED



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1 EXPERTS. EACH YEAR WE APPROVE FUNDING PAYMENTS TO L.A.C.E.R.A.
2 WHATEVER THE AMOUNT WE APPROVE ARE BASED UPON THE BOARD'S
3 ADOPTION OF FIGURES PROVIDED TO US BY L.A.C.E.R.A., NOT THE
4 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. WE ARE NOW SEEING SIGNS OF INCONSISTENCY
5 THAT NEED TO BE SORTED OUT. THERE ARE DIFFERING VIEWS
6 REGARDING AND INCLUDING THE COUNTING OF STAR C.O.L.A.
7 RESERVES, THERE ARE DIFFERING VIEWS ON INCONSISTENCIES WITH
8 RESPECT TO THE EXPECTED RATE OF RETURN, GIVEN THAT ANY FINAL
9 NUMBERS THIS BOARD ENDORSES WILL ALSO APPEAR ON OUR FINANCIAL
10 STATEMENTS. THE BOARD SHOULD BE DOUBLY CAREFUL AND RETAIN A
11 SIMPLE INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE ACCOUNTING AND ACTUARIAL
12 PRACTICES THAT L.A.C.E.R.A. AND THE COUNTY ARE FOLLOWING AND
13 HOW THEY MATCH WITH THE ADVICE OF EXPERTS. WE HAVE SEEN TIME
14 AND TIME AGAIN, AND I CAN PERSONALLY ATTEST TO A GREAT FIRM,
15 ACCOUNTING FIRM, ARTHUR ANDERSON, ONE OF THE GREAT FIRMS,
16 THEY'VE HAD THEIR REPUTATION ON GLOBAL CROSSING, WHICH MANY OF
17 US INVESTED IN, ONLY TO FIND OUT IT WAS A HOAX. WE ALSO HAD
18 ENRON. WE ALSO HAD LINCOLN SAVINGS AND LOCALLY, WE HAVE BELL,
19 CALIFORNIA. WE HAVE THOSE SITUATIONS OCCURRING WHERE THE STATE
20 HAS A FISCAL PROBLEM WITH THEIR RETIREMENT SYSTEM. THE FEDERAL
21 GOVERNMENT IS ALSO FACING THAT AND EVERY CITY AND COUNTY IN
22 THIS STATE IS FACING IT, AND IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ASK
23 QUESTIONS AND WHEN WE SEE SATISFACTORY ANSWERS, WE MOVE
24 FORWARD, BUT WHEN THERE ARE QUESTIONS THAT ARE BEING RAISED
25 AND AGGRESSIVE ASSUMPTIONS, AND WHEN YOU WANT TO BE



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1 AGGRESSIVE, THAT MEANS YOU START INVESTING NOT IN THE
2 CONSERVATIVE PORTFOLIO BUT IN THE MORE, MAYBE WE GET RICH
3 QUICKER, THAT'S WHERE WE HAD ALL OF THE CARDS FALLING DOWN,
4 THE HOUSE IS FALLING DOWN, AND ALL WE'RE ASKING FOR IS A 30-
5 DAY REVIEW TO GIVE US THE ASSURANCE THAT WE ARE ON THE RIGHT
6 TRACK BECAUSE WE ARE THE ONES LEFT HOLDING THE BAG IF WE
7 AREN'T. IF YOU LOOK AT THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO, WHERE THREE
8 PEOPLE WERE CONVICTED BECAUSE THEY DID NOT FOLLOW THEIR
9 JUDICIARY RESPONSIBILITIES, AND THAT WAS JUST RECENTLY. THANK
10 YOU.

11

12 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. AGAIN, YOU KNOW, I HAVE BEEN
13 INVOLVED IN THE PENSION ISSUE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY NOW FOR A
14 LONG TIME, AND WE HAD SOME MAJOR REFORMS THAT WERE FINALLY
15 PASSED AND WE'RE ON A VERY SOLID PATHWAY. IT'S BEEN
16 FASCINATING TO WATCH L.A.C.E.R.A., WHICH I THINK IS ONE OF THE
17 BEST RUN SYSTEMS WE'VE SEEN ACROSS THE BOARD. THEY HAVE VERY,
18 VERY SOLID RULES. I'VE APPRECIATED VERY MUCH HOW THE POLITICS
19 AND THE DYNAMICS OF POLITICIANS HERE AT THIS BOARD DON'T--
20 AREN'T PERMITTED IN L.A.C.E.R.A. TO GET INVOLVED AND HOW THEY
21 MAKE THOSE DECISIONS AND THAT THEY HAVE ADOPTED VERY
22 CONSERVATIVE GUIDELINES. I THINK THAT IF YOU LOOK AT IT ACROSS
23 THE BOARD, THERE ARE MANY PLACES WHERE YOU CAN POINT THE
24 FINGER. I DON'T THINK LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S RETIREMENT IS THE
25 PLACE. AND JUST I THINK WE'RE GOING -- THERE'S NO DOUBT THERE



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1 ARE A LOT OF OTHER PLACES THAT ARE DOING THAT, BUT YOU NEED TO
2 GO BACK AND LOOK AT THE DECISIONS THAT THE POLITICIANS MADE
3 AND IMPOSED ON THEIR RETIREMENT BOARD AND OTHERS. WE HAVE NOT
4 MADE THESE. WE WERE CLOSE WHEN PEOPLE WERE PUSHING US AT 3
5 PERCENT AND 50, AND WE'VE GOTTEN CLOSE IN OTHER AREAS, WHEN
6 THERE WAS PENSIONS SPIKING GOING ON THAT WAS CREATED. WE HAVE
7 CREATED SAFEGUARDS AND I THINK THAT L.A.C.E.R.A. ITSELF HAS
8 BEEN FAIRLY CONSERVATIVE IN ITS APPROACH. I THINK THERE'S
9 ALWAYS MUCH MORE THAT YOU CAN DO IN ORDER TO PLEASE, YOU KNOW,
10 THE OTHERS AND, OF COURSE, THERE ARE ALWAYS ISSUES, RETIREMENT
11 HEALTH IS A VERY VOLATILE ISSUE ON EITHER SIDE, ONLY BECAUSE
12 THE COSTS KEEP INCREASING, WHICH WE CAN'T CONTROL. IT'S JUST
13 SAY WE OWE, THE END, AND SO THAT'S GOING TO CHANGE EVERY
14 SINGLE YEAR FOR A WHILE, SO I CAN'T SUPPORT THE MOTION BECAUSE
15 IT'S GOING TO COST \$150,000 FOR SOMETHING WE PRETTY MUCH KNOW
16 NOW. AND SO I JUST CAN'T SUPPORT IT.

17

18 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** PUT A CAP ON THE AMOUNT THAT IT WOULD COST.

19

20 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THE CAP IS 150.

21

22 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** NO, NO. LOWER THAT FEE.

23

24 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THEY GET \$20 TO DO IT.

25



**The Meeting Transcript of
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** SO WE HAVE AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW.

2

3 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** I THINK YOU'RE GETTING AT THE INDEPENDENT,
4 MICHAEL, WHEN YOU HAVE L.A.C.E.R.A. THAT OPERATES VERY
5 INDEPENDENTLY. THEY REALLY DO.

6

7 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** BUT AGAIN, THEIR FIGURES OF 7.75 PERCENT
8 VERSUS 7.1 TO 7.5 PERCENT IS AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT, AND WHEN
9 YOU PUT THAT ON TOP OF THE LIABILITY, HEALTH WAS 23 PLUS
10 BILLION DOLLARS, THE OTHER WAS BETWEEN FIVE AND SIX BILLION.
11 WE'RE TALKING CLOSE TO \$30 BILLION LIABILITY THAT WE'RE FACED
12 WITH.

13

14 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. I REALLY FELT THAT THIS WAS AN
15 INVESTMENT THAT WE NEEDED TO MAKE BECAUSE THERE WERE THINGS
16 WEREN'T FUNCTIONING-- I WOULD DO SO, I WOULD WANT US, BUT I
17 HAVE WATCHED IT AND I THINK WE'VE MADE-- YOU KNOW, THIS BOARD
18 HAS MADE A LOT OF THE APPROPRIATE DECISIONS INCLUDING KEEPING
19 YOUR FINGERS OUT OF SOME OF THE ISSUES THERE AND LETTING
20 L.A.C.E.R.A. BE THE FISCAL FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS
21 OPERATIONS.

22

23 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** MAYBE ONE OF OUR GREAT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
24 HERE WOULD VOLUNTEER AS PART OF THEIR COMMUNITY SERVICE.

25



**The Meeting Transcript of
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** AGAIN, SOME OF THOSE FINANCIAL
2 INSTITUTIONS THAT YOU TALK ABOUT, I MEAN, AGAIN, THERE WAS
3 MISMANAGEMENT.

4

5 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** ARTHUR ANDERSEN.

6

7 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THERE WAS MISMANAGEMENT AND GREED THAT
8 PARTICIPATED IN IT, AND THERE IS NO DOUBT AND ALL OF THE
9 COVER-UP THAT HAS LED TO THE ECONOMIC CHAOS THAT WE'RE IN NOW
10 AND VERY FRANKLY, YOU KNOW, TO KIND OF SAY THAT THEY'RE IN THE
11 SAME LEVEL AS THAT, I WOULD JUST HAVE TO DISAGREE ON WHAT
12 WE'VE SEEN AND WE'VE SEEN THEM OPERATE, AND I KNOW THAT
13 ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO HAVE CONTROL OR MAKE SUGGESTIONS AS
14 TO HOW TO DO THINGS, AND THEY HAVE RESPECTFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED
15 WHATEVER THAT PARTICIPATION AND CONTINUED TO DO WHAT THEY
16 THINK IS MOST APPROPRIATE TO THE FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY THEY
17 HAVE TO THE ENTIRE PENSION SYSTEM.

18

19 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** MADAME CHAIR, COULD I JUST ASK?

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SURE.

22

23 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** HOW MANY AUDITS WERE DONE AS PART OF THIS
24 EXERCISE?

25



**The Meeting Transcript of
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT AND BOARD OF
2 INVESTMENTS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ESTABLISHING A VERY RIGOROUS
3 INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEM. THEY'VE DONE SO. THEY'VE ALSO HIRED
4 AN INDEPENDENT AUDIT TEAM, SO WE HAVE OUR OWN INDEPENDENT
5 AUDITORS TESTING AND CHALLENGING OURSELVES IF WE'RE FOLLOWING
6 OUR OWN CONTROL PROCEDURES. IN ADDITION TO THAT, WE HIRE
7 INDEPENDENT EXPERTS, MENTIONED ABOUT THE FINANCIAL AUDITS, WE
8 HAVE A FINANCIAL AUDIT FIRM, BROWN ARMSTRONG, WHICH IS A
9 RECOGNIZED REGIONAL FIRM THAT SPECIALIZES IN PENSION FUND
10 ACCOUNTING. THEY COME IN AND AUDIT US ANNUALLY. IN ADDITION TO
11 LOOKING AT THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, WE ALSO HAVE THEM TAKE A
12 DEEP DIVE INTO THE DISABILITY PROCESS TO MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE
13 FOLLOWING ALL THE RULES AND REGULATIONS WITH REGARDS TO
14 DISABILITY PROCESSING. ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT REQUIRED UNDER STATE
15 LAW, WE HIRE AN OUTSIDE AUDITOR TO COME AND DO AN INDEPENDENT
16 AUDIT ON A TRIAL BASIS ON THE ACTUARIAL PROCESS TO MAKE SURE
17 THAT THE INVESTIGATION ON HOW WE'RE LOOKING AT THESE
18 ASSUMPTIONS, WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HERE TODAY, IS DONE IN A
19 RIGOROUS FASHION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACTUARIAL PRINCIPLES.

20
21 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** SO YOU HAVE AN AUDITOR DO AN AUDIT IN THE
22 FIRST PLACE, THEN YOU HAVE AN AUDITOR WHO DOES AN AUDIT ON THE
23 ACTUARIAL ISSUES, A SEPARATE AUDITOR.

24
25 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** CORRECT.



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1

2 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** PLUS YOU HAVE A BATTERY OF EXPERTS WHOSE
3 FUNCTION IT IS TO TEST THE ASSUMPTIONS YOU'RE MAKING TO SEE
4 ABOUT THE VERACITY OR THE VALIDITY OF THOSE ASSUMPTIONS?

5

6 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** THAT'S CORRECT.

7

8 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** SO YOU HAVE ESSENTIALLY THREE DIFFERENT
9 STUDIES THAT HAVE GONE ON IN CONNECTION WITH THIS. THIS WOULD
10 BE A FOURTH.

11

12 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** THAT WOULD BE CORRECT.

13

14 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THIS ONE WOULD BE FROM THE BOARD HAVING
15 INDEPENDENT REVIEW. NOT AN AUDIT, BUT A REVIEW FOR THOSE
16 FIGURES PRESENTING THAT INFORMATION TO US.

17

18 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** WELL, IT WOULD BE AS INDEPENDENT AS THEIRS.
19 I DON'T KNOW HOW INDEPENDENT-- IF YOU'RE TRYING TO RAISE THE
20 SPECTER THAT THE AUDITS THEY'VE DONE ARE NOT OBJECTIVE, THEN
21 CERTAINLY SOMEONE COULD RAISE THE SAME ISSUE WITH US. MY OTHER
22 QUESTION WAS GOING TO BE, WITH ALL THESE AUDITS THAT YOU'VE
23 DONE AND THE EXPERTS, HAVE THEY ALL CONCLUDED THE SAME THING,
24 OR HAVE THEY DISPUTED EACH OTHER IN ANY SUBSTANTIVE WAY?

25



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1 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** SINCE MY TENURE WITH THE PLAN, WE DID HAVE
2 ONE AUDIT ON THE ACTUARIAL SIDE WHICH CAME UP, IT WAS OUR
3 VERY, VERY FIRST ACTUARIAL AUDIT AND THERE WERE SOME
4 DISCREPANCIES IDENTIFIED. THOSE DISCREPANCIES HAVE BEEN
5 RECTIFIED AND WE WENT THROUGH A SERIES OF ABOUT FOUR YEARS WE
6 HAD ANNUAL AUDITS DONE OF THE ACTUARIAL PROCESS TO MAKE SURE
7 THAT IT WAS BEING DONE APPROPRIATELY AND PROPERLY AND ALL OF
8 THOSE AUDITS HAVE COME UP CLEAN. ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
9 AUDITS, SINCE I'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE SYSTEMS SINCE THE LATE
10 1980S, THEY'VE COME UP WITH A CLEAN FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT
11 EVERY YEAR.

12

13 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** SO ONE EXCEPTION, ALL OF THE AUDITS AND THE
14 EXPERTS HAVE GENERALLY CONCLUDED-- COME TO THE SAME
15 CONCLUSIONS?

16

17 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** YES.

18

19 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** DID THEY CONCLUDE THAT OUR LIABILITY WAS
20 GROWING?

21

22 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I DON'T THINK ANYBODY IS DISPUTING THAT THE
23 LIABILITY IS GROWING.

24



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1 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** AND DID THEY MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO REDUCE
2 THAT LIABILITY?

3

4 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** ABSOLUTELY. THE ACTUARIAL CONSULTING FIRM
5 REGULARLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE EMPLOYER AND THE EMPLOYEES
6 CONTRIBUTE IN THE NORMAL COST TO FUND THE PLAN ON AN ANNUAL
7 BASIS AND WE'VE BEEN VERY FORTUNATE HERE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY
8 AS OPPOSED TO WHAT YOU'LL READ IN NEW JERSEY THAT LOS ANGELES
9 COUNTY MAKES THEIR REQUIRED ANNUAL PAYMENTS. IN ADDITION TO
10 THAT, THE ACTUARY MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS IS THAT IF THERE IS A
11 FUNDING SHORTFALL, THAT THE EMPLOYER MAKE ADDITIONAL
12 CONTRIBUTIONS INTO THE PLAN SO THAT THERE WILL BE A TIME WHERE
13 ACTUALLY THE PLAN WILL BE AT 100 PERCENT FUNDING.

14

15 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** BUT ON THE STAR C.O.L.A., THEY WENT AGAINST
16 THEIR COUNSEL'S RECOMMENDATION, DIDN'T THEY?

17

18 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** I DON'T THINK THEY DID, NO.

19

20 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** DO YOU THINK THEY SUPPORTED THE COUNSEL
21 RECOMMENDATION ON STAR C.O.L.A.?

22

23 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** IF YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT THEY, THAT WOULD
24 BE THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS LISTENING TO THEIR IN-HOUSE STAFF
25 COUNSEL, I WOULD SAY YES, THEY DID.



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1

2 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THEIR LEGAL COUNSEL?

3

4 **GREGG RADEMACHER:** YES, THEY DID.

5

6 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I JUST-- I DON'T THINK A FOURTH STUDY IS
7 WORTH THE COST, AND IF YOU CAN FIND SOMEBODY WHO CAN DO IT PRO
8 BONO, FINE, I'D BE ALL FOR IT, BUT I JUST DON'T THINK SPENDING
9 \$150,000 OR MORE TO DO ANOTHER STUDY IS GOING TO ADD ANYTHING
10 TO IT. THEY'VE HAD THREE DIFFERENT GROUPS OF ENTITIES LOOKING
11 AT THIS. THEY'VE ALL COME TO THE SAME CONCLUSION. I'M NOT SO
12 SANGUINE ABOUT THE DIRECTION WE'RE GOING. IT'S NOT THE FUND'S
13 FAULT. IT'S JUST THE ECONOMY IS DRAGGING EVERYBODY DOWN. THIS
14 HAS BEEN A VERY WELL- MANAGED PENSION SYSTEM, BUT EVEN THE
15 BEST-MANAGED PENSION SYSTEM CAN'T SURVIVE SOME OF THE TSUNAMIS
16 THAT COME OUR WAY FROM TIME TO TIME, AND-- BUT YOU HAVE TO
17 HAVE A STOMACH FOR THIS AND YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE THE LONG VIEW.
18 I REMEMBER THE DAY IN OCTOBER, I THINK IT WAS OCTOBER 1ST,
19 1987, WHEN THE STOCK MARKET CRASHED AND THE THEN C.A.O. FOR
20 THE CITY OF L.A. CAME OVER TO ME AND SAID WE JUST LOST A
21 BILLION DOLLARS IN OUR PENSION SYSTEM TODAY, BUT WE GAINED IT
22 BACK AND THEN SOME OVER A RELATIVELY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. SO
23 IF YOU TAKE A SNAPSHOT IN TIME, YOU CAN GET YOUR BLOOD
24 PRESSURE BOILING, BUT I THINK LOOKING AT IT IN THE CONTEXT IS
25 BETTER INTELLECTUALLY AND IT'S ALSO BETTER FOR YOUR HEALTH,



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1 BUT I DO THINK IT'S SOMETHING WE NEED TO CONTINUE TO WATCH,
2 AND I KNOW YOUR BOARD OF INVESTMENTS IS DOING THAT AND WE NEED
3 TO DO THAT AND WE NEED TO BE SURE THAT WE'RE IN A POSITION TO
4 MAKE THE PAYMENTS THAT WE NEED TO MAKE TO AVERT SITUATIONS
5 WHERE IT FORCES US INTO MORE DRACONIAN STEPS, AND WE CERTAINLY
6 DON'T WANT ANYBODY WHO IS GOING TO BE RETIRED TO-- YOU WILL
7 SOME DAY RETIRE, MIKE, I KNOW THAT. IT'S GOT TO BE. IT MAY BE
8 A LONG TIME, BUT YOU'RE GOING TO THE THERE, AND YOU'RE GOING
9 TO-- YOU DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO PAY FOR WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY
10 PAID FOR. ANYWAY, I'M NOT GOING TO SUPPORT THIS.

11

12 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** OKAY. SO IS THERE A MOTION?

13

14 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** LET ME PURSUE THIS AND BRING BACK AND SEE IF
15 WE CAN GET A PRO BONO.

16

17 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** DID YOU WANT TO SPEAK, MARK? I DIDN'T HEAR
18 YOU.

19

20 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** LET ME SEE IF WE CAN GET A LOW COST REPORT.
21 AND BRING IT BACK.

22

23 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** IN THE INTERIM --A FILE, ALL RIGHT. IN THE
24 INTERIM, THANK YOU SO MUCH, FOLKS. MR. SACHS WOULD LIKE TO



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1 ADDRESS US, AND I'M SURE THAT MR. SACHS WILL FIND A WAY TO
2 WEAVE THE M.T.A. INTO IT.

3

4 **SUP. RIDLEY-THOMAS:** THE MORE FINANCIAL ADVISERS, THE BETTER.
5 KEEP AN EYE ON THAT C.E.O. OFFICE. THE MORE CHECKS AND
6 BALANCES, THE BETTER, MADAME CHAIR.

7

8 **ARNOLD SACHS:** THANK YOU AGAIN, MY DEMOCRATIC ADVOCATE, GLORIA
9 MOLINA. MY QUESTION WOULD BE -

10

11 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** JUST STAY ON POINT AND YOU GET A WHOLE
12 THREE MINUTES AT IT.

13

14 **ARNOLD SACHS:** WELL, I'M SURPRISED YOU MISSED THIS ONE,
15 SUPERVISOR. MY QUESTION WOULD BE IS I BELIEVE LAST MONTH, YOU
16 GAVE \$200 MILLION TO THE PENSION-- YOU INCREASED THE \$200
17 MILLION PAYMENT TO THE PENSION FUND, SO WHY WASN'T THIS
18 DISCUSSION HELD BEFORE YOU GAVE THE \$200 MILLION, BECAUSE NOW
19 YOUR TALKING ABOUT \$150,000 SAVINGS HERE OR THERE, BUT THAT
20 WAS 200 MILLION. SO THAT'S WHAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. AND THEN,
21 SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY, WHEN YOU BROUGHT UP THE-- IN YOUR
22 DISCUSSION REGARDING WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE CITY OF L.A., ONE
23 HAS TO WONDER, AFTER THAT CATASTROPHE, WHY THEY SWEETENED THE
24 INCREASES IN THE PENSION PLAN. I MEAN, THEY LOWERED THE AGE OF
25 RETIREMENT, THEY INCREASED THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT WAS



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1 ELIGIBLE-- I MEAN THE PERCENTAGE OF PAY ELIGIBLE TO THE
2 WORKERS WHO RETIRED EARLIER. SO LOSING A BILLION DOLLARS, AND
3 THEN THEY TURNED AROUND AND SWEETENED THE POT FOR NOT BEING
4 ABLE TO RECUPERATE THAT BILLION DOLLARS AND COSTING THE CITY
5 MORE MONEY. SIMILAR SITUATION. THANK YOU. AND I'M GOING TO
6 SAVE YOU A MINUTE AND I WON'T MENTION THE M.T.A.. OOP. I DID.

7

8 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** YOU'RE GOOD AT IT. ALL RIGHT. WE'LL MOVE
9 TO, QUOTE, THE "A" FILE. 42-A.

10

11 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THAT'S ALL I HAVE. THANK YOU.

12

13 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MIKE, DID YOU WANT TO DO YOUR
14 ADJOURNMENTS?

15

16 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** I DID.

17

18 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** YOU DID THEM ALL. OKAY. 42-A, STAFF?

19

20 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I HAVE ADJOURNING.

21

22 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** WE'LL DO 42-A.

23

24 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I JUST WANT TO ADD, 42A, I MOVE THE
25 FOLLOWING BE ADDED TO THE REPORT: "A DESCRIPTION OF THE



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1 PROPOSED PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE INTEGRATION OF HEALTH, MENTAL
2 HEALTH AND ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMS INCLUDING THE
3 INTEGRATION OF CARE AND PLANS FOR OUTCOME TRACKING ACROSS ALL
4 THREE SYSTEMS." SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS IS OKAY WITH THAT
5 AMENDMENT.

6

7 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. IS THAT ACCEPTABLE TO YOU, MR.
8 SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS?

9

10 **SUP. RIDLEY-THOMAS:** IT IS, MADAME CHAIR, AND I ACCEPT IT AS A
11 FRIENDLY AMENDMENT. THE WHOLE POINT HERE REALLY IS TO
12 ACKNOWLEDGE THE FACT THAT THIS IS NOTHING SHORT OF A
13 SIGNIFICANT LIFELINE FOR THE COUNTY, SPECIFICALLY THE
14 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES. ALL OF US REALIZE AND KNOW
15 THAT. I THINK, WHILE HAVING SAID THAT, MADAME CHAIR AND
16 COLLEAGUES, I THINK IT'S APPROPRIATE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE HARD
17 WORK OF OUR STAFF WHO WORKED VALIANTLY TO BRING THIS TO A
18 SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. AGAIN, IT'S NO SMALL THING TO HAVE A
19 WAIVER OF THIS SIZE, THIS SORT, AND THAT WILL FUEL THE GOOD
20 WORK THAT THE BOARD REALLY HAS BEEN COMMITTED TO, I THINK IT'S
21 WORTH DOCUMENTING THAT THIS IS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF
22 SUPPORT THAT WE'VE GOTTEN IN OVER FIVE YEARS THAT CLEARLY
23 PREDATE MY BEING HERE, AND SO RATHER THAN TREATING THIS AS A
24 KIND OF PEDESTRIAN MATTER, I THINK IT OUGHT TO BE CELEBRATED
25 AS SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT THAT WILL PUSH US FORWARD TO DOING



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1 EVEN BETTER WORK THAN HAS BEEN DONE IN THE PAST AND SO ONCE
2 AGAIN, HATS OFF TO THE STAFF IN ITS ENTIRETY FOR DOING A GOOD
3 JOB.

4

5 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** OKAY. WE HAVE TWO SPEAKERS. HAROLD STERKER
6 AND GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL. PLEASE, SIR.

7

8 **HAROLD STERKER:** MY NAME IS HAROLD STERKER, AND I WORK FOR THE
9 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH. I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF THE 85,000
10 MEMBERS OF S.E.I.U. LOCAL 721. 24,000 WHO WORK IN HEALTHCARE
11 TO STATE SUPPORT FOR SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS'S MOTION AND TO
12 STATE OUR SUPPORT FOR FIGURING OUT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1115
13 WAIVER IN L.A. COUNTY. THE LEADERSHIP OF S.E.I.U. LOCAL 721
14 ALONG WITH THE LEADERSHIP WITH OUR INTERNATIONAL UNION MADE
15 PASSING HEALTHCARE REFORM A TOP PRIORITY FOR THE UNION TO THE
16 OBAMA ADMINISTRATION. WE REPRESENT 1.2 MILLION HEALTHCARE
17 WORKERS NATIONWIDE AND WE'RE PROUD OF THE WORK WE DID IN
18 HELPING CREATE THE PATHWAY TO HEALTHCARE REFORM IN THIS
19 COUNTRY. IN CALIFORNIA, OUR UNION LEADERSHIP MADE THE WAIVER A
20 TOP LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY IN ORDER TO CREATE RESOURCES FOR
21 PUBLIC HOSPITALS TO USE IN PREPARATION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
22 OF HEALTHCARE REFORM. WE WORKED HARD TO SUPPORT BOTH L.A.
23 COUNTY AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN ASSURING PASSAGE OF THE
24 HISTORIC WAIVER THAT WILL BUILD THE BRIDGE TO HEALTHCARE
25 REFORM. THIS WAIVER WILL PROVIDE 10 BILLION OVER 5 YEARS TO



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1 INCREASE COVERAGE FOR LOW INCOME INDIVIDUALS TO HELP SENIORS
2 AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES GET MANAGED CARE AND TO HELP
3 PUBLIC HOSPITALS BECOME SYSTEMS THAT CAN COMPETE UNDER
4 HEALTHCARE REFORM. THE WAIVER IS A HUGE WIN FOR US, BUT WE
5 KNOW THAT IT WILL COME WITH CHALLENGES AND NEW BENCHMARKS THAT
6 OUR HOSPITALS WILL HAVE TO REACH. WE LOOK FORWARD TO AND ARE
7 READY TO WORK WITH THE COUNTY IN IMPLEMENTING THE NEW
8 GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS THAT WILL BE SET BY THIS WAIVER. WE
9 KNOW THAT IT WILL REQUIRE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO BUILD A
10 HEALTH SYSTEM THAT CAN COMPETE UNDER HEALTHCARE REFORM. NOW IS
11 THE TIME FOR US TO ACT AND GET MOVING. AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO
12 ACHIEVING THESE GOALS AS PARTNERS WITH THE COUNTY, WE MAKE
13 SURE OUR HEALTH SYSTEM IS PATIENT CENTERED AND PROVIDER OF
14 CHOICE. THANK YOU.

15

16 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR.

17

18 **DR. GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL:** GOOD AFTERNOON, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.
19 DR. GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL. WELL WITH, FIRST OF ALL, HEALTHCARE
20 REFORM IS NOT A FAIT ACCOMPLI YET. I DO HOPE THAT IT WOULD BE
21 REPEALED. I THINK THERE'S ENOUGH IN THIS COUNTRY TO MAKE THIS
22 HAPPEN. I AM CONCERNED WITH ONE OF THE ITEMS HAVING TO DO WITH
23 ITEM E, A DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTY EFFORT TO PARTNER WITH
24 L.A. CARE TO MOVE SENIOR AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITY INTO
25 MANAGED CARE. YOU KNOW, I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN CONCERNED OF THE



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1 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BOARD AND L.A. CARE AND THE QUASI-
2 UNNATURAL RELATIONSHIP, SO I WILL LOOK AT IT VERY CAREFULLY.
3 I'M VERY GLAD THAT ITEM 115 IS ON THE WAY TO BEING APPROVED. I
4 HAVE BEEN MONITORING VERY CLOSELY HEALTHCARE FROM THE
5 BEGINNING AND I PRESENT A REPORT EVERY MONTH TO OVER 300,000
6 NURSES WHO READ MY ARTICLES. I HAVE A NEW ARTICLE FOR YOU,
7 IT'S CALLED "DR. NURSE." AS THE FIELD OF NURSING EVOLVES, SO
8 DOES THE LETTER AFTER OUR NAME. IT IS GOING TO BE A HUGE
9 PROBLEM DUE TO THE NURSING SHORTAGE AND DOCTOR SHORTAGE. SO I
10 HAVE ONLY ONE COPY TODAY. THANK YOU.

11

12 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. THE ITEM IS BEFORE US AS
13 AMENDED. MOVED BY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS, SECONDED BY
14 SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY. IF THERE'S NO OBJECTION, SO ORDERED.

15

16 **SUP. RIDLEY-THOMAS:** THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR.

17

18 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. DO YOU HAVE ANY ADJOURNMENTS?
19 I'D LIKE TO ASK THAT WE ADJOURN IN THE MEMORY OF SOFIA VALDEZ,
20 THE BELOVED MOTHER OF CONSTITUENT ROSE BERDIN WHO IS VERY
21 ACTIVE IN OUR LA PUENTE COMMUNITY. WE EXTEND OUR APPRECIATION
22 TO MS. BERDIN FOR ALL HER SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTION AND SEND OUR
23 THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS TO HER. SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS, YOUR
24 ADJOURNMENTS.

25



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1 **C.E.O. FUJIOKA:** DO YOU MIND IF I MAKE ONE QUICK COMMENT,
2 PLEASE?

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SURE.

5

6 **C.E.O. FUJIOKA:** I WAS FOCUSING ON SOMETHING, I APOLOGIZE FOR
7 NOT MAKING IT WHEN SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS'S MOTION CAME UP.
8 THE WAIVER TOOK-- THERE WAS A LOT OF WORK THAT WENT ON WITH
9 THIS WAIVER, AND FROM THE EARLY STAGES OF THE WAIVER TO THE
10 FINAL PRODUCT, IT MOVED CONSIDERABLY FROM SOMETHING THAT WOULD
11 HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY DETRIMENTAL TO OUR COUNTY TO SOMETHING
12 WHERE I I THINK WAS A VERY STRONG WAIVER, IT WAS A LOT OF WORK
13 THAT HAS TO BE DONE, WE CAN CALL IT HEAVY LIFTING, BUT THE
14 OPPORTUNITY IS THERE TO TRANSFORM OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM AND TO
15 MOVE FORWARD IN A VERY POSITIVE MANNER. FOR A LOT OF FOLKS WHO
16 HAVE WORKED ON THIS, THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ON THE WAIVER SINCE
17 '95 HAS SAID THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST WAIVERS WE'VE HAD. I JUST
18 WANTED TO RECOGNIZE THAT WE HAVE THOSE WHO WORKED ON IT FROM
19 JOHN SCHUNHOFF TO ALLAN WECKER, JONATHAN FREEMAN, BERT
20 MARGOLIN, OF COURSE OUR ADVOCATES BACK EAST AND SUSAN WHITE
21 AND THEN CAROL MEYERS, OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HEALTHCARE TEAM.
22 THEY PUT IN HUNDREDS OF HOURS AT NIGHT AND WEEKENDS AND SO ON
23 AND DID A VERY, VERY EXCEPTIONAL JOB, SO I JUST WANT TO CALL
24 OUT THOSE INDIVIDUALS. THANK YOU.

25



**The Meeting Transcript of
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. YOUR ADJOURNMENTS.

2

3 **SUP. RIDLEY-THOMAS:** THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR. ALWAYS
4 APPROPRIATE TO GIVE CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE. I'M SURE THAT
5 THE BOARD IN ITS ENTIRETY EMBRACES THAT POINT OF VIEW. MAY I
6 PROCEED TO ADJOURN IN THE MEMORY OF MARGARET "PEGGY" MCCRAY,
7 BORN NOVEMBER 23, 1944, IN CLEARFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA. SHE
8 PASSED AWAY ON NOVEMBER THE 14TH OF THIS YEAR AT THE AGE OF
9 65. MRS. MCCRAY LOCATED TO LOS ANGELES IN 1968. SHE HELD AN
10 ASSOCIATE OF ARTS, BACHELOR'S OF ARTS AND A MASTER'S OF ARTS
11 DEGREES AND WAS CURRENTLY WORKING ON A PH.D. AT THE UNIVERSITY
12 OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. SHE WAS A HIGH SCHOOL ART TEACHER AND
13 HISTORY TEACHER AS WELL IN THE EL MONTE SCHOOL DISTRICT. SHE
14 WAS A FAITHFUL MEMBER OF THE TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH AND SERVED
15 ON THE CHURCH'S DEACONESS BOARD. SHE WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR
16 BEING A STRONG CHRISTIAN WOMAN, SHE LIVES-- LEAVES TO CHERISH
17 HER MEMORY HER HUSBAND ISHMAN, HER CHILDREN, ISHMAN JUNIOR AND
18 KELLY AND A HOST OF OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS. MADAME
19 CHAIR, THAT CONCLUDES MY MEMORIALS FOR TODAY'S MEETING. THANK
20 YOU, MADAME CHAIR.

21

22 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY, YOUR
23 ADJOURNMENTS, PLEASE.

24



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1 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I HAVE TWO. GWYNN ROBINSON, ASK THAT WE
2 ADJOURN IN HER MEMORY, LONG-TIME RESIDENT OF OUR DISTRICT, WHO
3 RETIRED MAJOR GENERAL IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, WHO
4 RECENTLY PASSED AWAY AT THE AGE OF 90. GWYNN WAS A PAST
5 CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF THE VETERANS' PARK CONSERVANCY IN
6 BRENTWOOD, A, DECORATED VETERAN WHO FLEW MANY BOMBING MISSIONS
7 DURING WORLD WAR II AND CONTINUED HIS MILITARY SERVICE THROUGH
8 THE KOREAN WAR AND AFTER SERVING WITH N.A.T.O.. HE IS SURVIVED
9 BY HIS HIS WIFE, MAXINE, OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND
10 COLLEAGUES AND FELLOW VETERANS. I ASK THAT WE ADJOURN IN THE
11 MEMORY OF MICHELLE NICASTRO, LONG-TIME RESIDENT OF STUDIO
12 CITY, ACTRESS AND SINGER WHO RECENTLY PASSED AWAY AT THE AGE
13 OF 50 FOLLOWING A LONG BATTLE WITH CANCER. KNOWN FOR HER VOICE
14 ROLE AS PRINCESS ODETTE IN THE ANIMATED FILM "THE SWAN
15 PRINCESS," SHE HAD PERFORMED OFTEN ON STAGE AND FILMS ON
16 TELEVISION SINCE BEGINNING HER CAREER IN THE EARLY 1980S.
17 PLACIDO DOMINGO FIRST PRESENTED HER AS A FEATURED SOLOIST AT
18 THE HOLLYWOOD BOWL. SHE LATER TOURED JAPAN WITH THE HOLLYWOOD
19 BOWL ORCHESTRA. OTHER NOTABLE PERFORMANCES INCLUDED HER ROLE
20 AS EPONINE IN THE FIRST LOS ANGELES ENGAGEMENT OF "LES
21 MISERABLES." SHE IS SURVIVED BY HER HUSBAND OF 24 YEARS,
22 TELEVISION PRODUCER STEVE STARK, TWO DAUGHTERS, CALLIE AND
23 CADY, TWO SISTERS, BETH ANN AND KRISTIN, THREE NIECES AND FIVE
24 NEPHEWS. THOSE ARE MY TWO ADJOURNING MOTIONS.

25



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1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, THAT INCLUDES ALL OF OUR
2 ADJOURNMENTS AND ITEMS AND NOW WE HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT.

3

4 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** NO, THERE'S ONE OTHER ITEM. OH, PUBLIC
5 COMMENT, OKAY.

6

7 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** YES, PUBLIC COMMENT. WE NOW HAVE-- IF WE
8 COULD HAVE MIKE NEWEL, ROBERT YOUNG, GENE RAMIREZ AND PAUL
9 MALLIS, PLEASE JOIN US. THANK YOU. SIR, YOU'RE MR. NEWEL?

10

11 **MIKE NEWEL:** I'M MR. NEWEL.

12

13 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** PLEASE BEGIN.

14

15 **MIKE NEWEL:** MY NAME IS MIKE NEWEL, AND I HAVE A BUSINESS--

16

17 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** SPEAK INTO THE MICROPHONE A LITTLE CLOSER.

18

19 **MIKE NEWEL:** MY NAME IS NEWEL--

20

21 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** IT'S STILL NOT ON. THERE YOU GO.

22

23 **MIKE NEWEL:** MIKE NEWEL WITH "UNDER THE COVERS" ON ROSEMEAD
24 BOULEVARD IN PASADENA. WE'RE HERE TO TALK ABOUT THE ROSEMEAD
25 BOULEVARD PROJECT. TIMELINE FOR COMPLETING THE ROSEMEAD



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1 BOULEVARD PROJECT WAS SUPPOSED TO-- IS CAUSING SO MUCH GRIEF
2 AND FINANCIAL LOSS. ORIGINALLY THE PROJECT WAS SCHEDULED TO
3 BEGIN IN MARCH OF 2008, COMMENCING WITH UTILITY UNDERGROUND
4 WORK. THE ROAD WORK WAS COMMENCED IN LATE 2008, ALL WORK WAS
5 TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN 2-1/2 YEARS. THE ACTUAL WORK DID NOT
6 START UNTIL INITIAL LETTER THAT WAS RECEIVED FROM MR.
7 ANTONOVICH'S OFFICE-- LET ME BACK THAT UP. HOWEVER, THE ACTUAL
8 WORK DID NOT START AS STATED IN THE INITIAL LETTER THAT WE
9 RECEIVED FROM MR. ANTONOVICH'S OFFICE. WORK COMMENCED IN THE
10 SUMMER OF 2008, BEGINNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF ROSEMEAD AND
11 COLORADO. THE EASTBOUND OFF-RAMP FOR ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD SOUTH
12 FROM THE 210 FREEWAY HAD BEEN CLOSED SINCE 2008. AT FIRST,
13 UTILITY PHASE DID NOT REALLY IMPACT THE BUSINESSES ON ROSEMEAD
14 BOULEVARD. IT WAS STILL PRETTY WELL TRAVELED. BY THE FOURTH
15 QUARTER OF 2008, SMALL DROP-OFF WAS BEGINNING. AS THE WORK
16 MOVES SOUTH, FEWER AND FEWER MOTORISTS TRAVELED ROSEMEAD
17 BOULEVARD. THE BOULEVARD WAS NARROWED TO ONE LANE AND SIGNS
18 WERE INITIALLY POSTED ON AND AROUND ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD
19 DETOURING TRAFFIC AWAY FROM ROSEMEAD, AND SOME OF THESE SIGNS
20 THAT WERE LIT ACTUALLY TOLD MOTORISTS TO USE MITCHELL LINDA
21 AND EXPECT LONG DELAYS ON ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD. BY EARLY 2009,
22 THE TRAFFIC FLOW ON ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD HAD DECREASED
23 SIGNIFICANTLY. THE WORK MEDIAN-- THE MEDIAN WORK AND THE LIGHT
24 FIXTURES CAUSED DELAYS FROM THE 210 FREEWAY BELOW DUARTE. WE
25 HAD SALES THAT FELL OFF 21 PERCENT FROM 2008 TO 2009. ROAD



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1 WORK THAT WAS COMMENCED IN LATE 2008 DIDN'T START UNTIL EARLY
2 2010. ROSEMEAD HAD DETOUR AND OTHER ROAD SIGNS POSTED FOR MANY
3 MONTHS WHILE NO WORK WAS BEING DONE ON ROSEMEAD. WE STILL HAVE
4 A RAMP CLOSURE FROM 210 SOUTHBOUND ON ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD, AND
5 WE DON'T KNOW WHAT THE REASON FOR THAT IS OTHER THAN THE
6 COUNTY WANTS TO DIVERT ALL THE TRAFFIC AWAY FROM ROSEMEAD
7 BOULEVARD. HAD THE WORK COMMENCED ORIGINALLY STATE TO US, THE
8 ROAD WORK WOULD ALMOST BE COMPLETE. FROM A BUSINESS OWNER'S
9 PERSPECTIVE, WE SEE THE TRAVEL PATTERNS OF THE MOTORISTS THAT
10 USE TO TRAVEL ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD HAVE BEEN ALTERED AND THEY
11 MIGHT NOT COME BACK. CONSTRUCTION PHASES WERE NOT COORDINATED
12 PREVIOUSLY STATED AND THE JOB HAD DRAGGED OUT MUCH LONGER THAN
13 PROJECTED, AND WE'RE JUST LOOKING FOR ANSWERS ON, YOU KNOW,
14 WHAT THE COMPLETION DATE IS AND WHY THINGS ARE TORN UP THE WAY
15 THEY ARE STILL.

16

17 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, SIR, THANK YOU. IS MR. YOUNG
18 HERE?

19

20 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WELL, YOU'RE GOING TO TALK ON THE SAME
21 SUBJECT?

22

23 **SPEAKER:** WELL, WITHOUT BEING RUDE AND BEFORE YOU START MY
24 THREE MINUTES, SIR, BEFORE YOU START MY THREE MINUTES, AS I
25 LISTENED TO HIM FOR THREE MINUTES, ON THE PHONE STILL,



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1 READING, DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING, YOU KNOW, I'D REALLY LIKE
2 SOME CONSIDERATION AND RESPECT FOR US BEING HERE ON SAYING
3 WHAT'S NEEDED TO BE SAID. I FEEL LIKE THIS POOR GUY WAS NOT
4 EVEN LISTENED TO DURING THIS TIME FRAME.

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. YOUR THREE MINUTES IS GOING TO
7 START, SIR.

8

9 **SPEAKER:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MR. ANTONOVICH, I UNDERSTAND
10 YOU'RE OUR REPRESENTATIVE IN PASADENA, WE'RE NOT PART OF THE
11 CITY, WE'RE IN THE COUNTY. AS OF RIGHT NOW, WHAT HE SAID IS
12 EXACTLY TRUE. I'VE BEEN IN PASADENA FOR FOUR YEARS. IN 2008,
13 FROM 2009, FIRST SIX MONTHS, MY _____ 119,000-DOLLAR
14 INCREASE IN SALES. FROM 2009 TO 2010, I HAD A DECREASE IN
15 SALES OF \$476,000 BECAUSE OF THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION WE'RE
16 TALKING ABOUT RIGHT NOW. IT WAS TORN UP BADLY FOR THE FIRST
17 FOUR MONTHS IN COLORADO AND NOW FOR 1.5 MILES FURTHER, IT'S
18 BEEN TORN UP AGAIN CONSISTENTLY AND TO DATE, IT'S STILL TORN
19 UP. THERE'S 60 BUSINESSES ON THE 1.5-MILE STRETCH. 11 ARE NOW
20 CLOSED DOORS, OUT OF BUSINESS. THE LAST ONE, BURGER KING, JUST
21 CLOSED ON 10/15. THERE'S 24 OWNERS RIGHT HERE THAT HAVE SIGNED
22 A PETITION THAT HAVE SEEN A LOSS IN SALES FROM 15 PERCENT TO
23 55 PERCENT IN THIS TIME FRAME. MY CONCERN HERE IS TO DATE, AS
24 I GO THROUGH NOW OCTOBER, MY PARTICULAR STORE IS DOWN 34
25 PERCENT, OR \$851,000. THAT'S TAX REVENUE OF \$82,000 RIGHT NOW



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1 THAT YOU GUYS AREN'T GETTING RIGHT NOW FROM THESE LOST SALES.
2 I'VE LOST 37 PERCENT OF MY EMPLOYEE FORCE. OTHER BUSINESSES
3 HAVE LOST THE SAME AND MORE. OUR CONCERN IS WE'RE TOLD THE WAY
4 THIS CONTRACT IS WRITTEN UP FOR THIS 400-DAY TIME FRAME
5 THEY'RE GIVEN, THEY'RE APPARENTLY DOING ONE, TWO AND THREE
6 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS DURING THE SAME TIME FRAME. SO AS ROSEMEAD
7 IS BEING TORN UP FOR 12 MONTHS, AND THEY'RE DOING TWO AND
8 THREE OTHER JOBS AT THE SAME TIME, IT'S TAKING LONGER, WE
9 FEEL, TO GET THIS JOB DONE BECAUSE THERE'S WORK NOT BEING DONE
10 IN OUR EYESIGHT, _____ 24/7, FIVE DAYS A WEEK, SIX DAYS A
11 WEEK, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK. IF THIS IS HAPPENING THROUGH THE
12 WHOLE FIVE DISTRICTS IN OUR COUNTIES, YOU'RE LOSING A LOT OF
13 RETAIL REVENUE. THERE'S BUSINESSES ARE CLOSING DOWN AND WE'RE
14 LOSING JOBS. OKAY? MY QUESTION, THEN, AND CONCERN IS, FOR THE
15 NEXT 11 MONTHS THIS CONTRACT IS STILL GOING ON, IS THERE ANY
16 WAY WE CAN HAVE SOME TYPE OF COMPENSATION? I KNOW WITH THE
17 GOVERNMENT, THAT'S TOUGH TO DO, BUT INSTEAD OF GOING BACKWARDS
18 FOR THE LAST 10 MONTHS, MAYBE UNTIL THIS CONTRACT IS COMPLETED
19 IN THE FALL OF 2011, CAN WE MAYBE DO ABATEMENT ON THE PROPERTY
20 TAXES BEING PAID UNTIL THIS JOB IS DONE AND CAN WE MAYBE NOT
21 PAY TAXES UNTIL THIS IS DONE, NOT GOING BACKWARDS, BUT JUST
22 FOR THE NEXT 11 MONTHS IN FRONT OF US. AGAIN, BEFORE THIS
23 YEAR'S OVER, I'M GOING TO HAVE \$1 MILLION IN LOST SALES, ONE
24 STORE, THERE'S 26 OTHER STORES IN THE SAME SITUATION. THAT'S
25 OUR CONCERN.



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1

2 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO, WE'LL HAVE A MEETING,
3 WE'LL BRING IN PUBLIC WORKS SO YOU CAN PERSONALLY GET THE
4 LATEST INFORMATION AND SEE HOW WE CAN HELP ASSIST.

5

6 **SPEAKER:** WE JUST HAD A MEETING LAST WEEK WITH HECTOR
7 HERNANDEZ, KEN SWANSON AND JIM SPARKS. WE DID TALK TO THEM.
8 AND WITHOUT BEING DISRESPECTFUL AGAIN, IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY ARE
9 THERE TO GO AHEAD AND SORT OF MAYBE TRY TO ANSWER OUR
10 QUESTIONS, BUT I REALLY FELT THERE'S NOT MUCH THEY CAN DO ON
11 THEIR END AND I REALLY FELT THAT BY THE TIME THIS GOES
12 THROUGH, THEY'LL BE IN THE NEXT CITY DOING THE NEXT JOB AND
13 WE'LL HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE LEFTOVERS. THAT'S THE WAY I FELT
14 THE MEETING WENT.

15

16 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WE'LL HAVE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS AT
17 THE MEETING.

18

19 **SPEAKER:** THAT WOULD BE BILL OR JOHN OR GIL?

20

21 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THE DIRECTOR, MS. FARBER.

22

23 **SPEAKER:** OKAY. WE JUST, AGAIN, IT'S 10 MONTHS AND IT'S STILL--

24



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1 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** STILL, AGAIN, YOUR TIME IS UP. ALL RIGHT.
2 IS MR. YOUNG HERE OR NOT? HOW ABOUT MR. MALLIS? IS HE HERE?
3 NO? ALL RIGHT. CHARLES STUART, MALCOLM KLUGMAN, BOB GUTTERMAN,
4 CHRISTOPHER MAGANA, JUST COME ON UP. GREG ROBESON. MR.
5 ROBESON'S NOT HERE? TAREQ NASARALLAH. NO? TOM WRIGHT? FIND
6 FOUR PEOPLE. YOU'RE HERE, MR. WRIGHT? SAM POLK?

7

8 **TOM WRIGHT:** YES.

9

10 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** COME ON UP. ALL RIGHT. MR. STUART.

11

12 **CHARLES STUART:** I'M CHARLES STUART, I'M FOUNDER, CHAIRMAN AND
13 C.E.O. OF PIONEER F.Y.I., WHICH IS SUPPORTIVE HOUSING
14 SERVICES. NOW IT'S A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION. THAT'S WHY I
15 FAILED TO COME HERE BEFORE THE BOARD. AS I COMMUNICATED,
16 CORRESPONDED WITH MANY-- ALL OR MOST OF THE BOARD MEMBERS WITH
17 THE EXCLUSION OF MR. FUJIOKA, AFTER SIX YEARS, MY INITIAL
18 APPLICATION FOR 501(C)3 TAX EXEMPT CHARITY FOR LOW INCOME
19 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING, AFFORDABLE HOUSING ORGANIZATION WAS
20 GRANTED IN SEPTEMBER, SO THE I.R.S. HAS GREENLIGHTED PIONEER
21 F.Y.I. AND WOULD YOU BE LOOKING TO CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE
22 OWNERS FOR THE HISTORIC SITES BUILDINGS AND MOVE INTO THEM AND
23 FILL THEM UP AND THAT'S INCLUDING A HOSPITAL, ALL WITHIN THE
24 CENTRAL METROPOLITAN AREA. SO I'VE HAD SOME COMPUTER CRASHES



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1 BUT THAT'S WHAT I'M GOING TO BE WORKING ON FOR THE NEXT-- THE
2 REST OF THE TWO YEARS COMING UP.

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. VERY GOOD. THANK YOU, SIR.

5

6 **CHARLES STUART:** AND I APPRECIATE ALL THE SUPPORT YOU'VE GIVEN
7 GENEROUSLY BY THE BOARD MEMBERS.

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. MR. KLUGMAN.

10

11 **MALCOLM KLUGMAN:** MY NAME IS MALCOLM KLUGMAN. I WANTED TO GET
12 YOUR HELP BECAUSE SOMETHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN. YOU GUYS
13 REMEMBER WHEN WE SWITCHED FROM ANALOG TO DIGITAL TELEVISION
14 AND WHAT HAPPENED THEN. WELL, IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IN SOUTHERN
15 CALIFORNIA IN JANUARY WHEN K.C.E.T. SWITCHES FROM P.B.S. AND
16 BECOMES INDEPENDENT AND ALL OF A SUDDEN MOM'S GOING TO GET UP
17 AND "SESAME STREET'S: NOT GOING TO BE ON THERE. THE :JIM
18 LEHRER NEWS HOUR" ISN'T GOING TO BE ON. "CHARLIE ROSE,"
19 "NOVA," "NIGHTLINE," ALL THOSE PROGRAMS ARE GOING TO BE GONE
20 BECAUSE K.C.E.T. CAN'T AFFORD THE DUES TO PAY TO P.B.S. IN
21 ORDER TO STAY IN THE P.B.S. SYSTEM. THIS CAN BE RESOLVED. IT
22 DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A FAIT ACCOMPLI. SO WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS
23 TO ASK YOU, THIS BOARD, TO PASS A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE
24 REOPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN P.B.S. AND K.C.E.T. THERE'S
25 THINGS IN THE PAPER ABOUT ALL THE WONDERFUL NEW PROGRAMMING



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1 K.C.E.T IS GOING TO DO. IF THEY HAD THE MONEY TO DO THAT, THEY
2 WOULD HAVE PAID THE DUES AND STAYED WITH P.B.S. BECAUSE THAT'S
3 WHERE THE AUDIENCE EXPECTS TO SEE IT. THE REASON YOU NEED TO
4 DO THIS IS BECAUSE, REMEMBER THOSE BOXES THAT THEY HAD TO PUT
5 IN TO GET YOUR ANALOG T.V. TO GET DIGITAL SIGNALS, A LOT OF
6 PEOPLE DID THAT, THEY DON'T HAVE CABLE. IF YOU HAVE CABLE,
7 YOU'D BE ABLE TO GET THE STATIONS IN ORANGE COUNTY, BUT
8 THEY'RE NOT AT THE SAME TIME AND THEY'RE NOT-- AND THE OTHER
9 THING IS, THE K.C.E.T. SIGNAL GOES ALL THE WAY UP TO SANTA
10 BARBARA, SO I WOULD LIKE TO START HERE AND ASK FOR A
11 RESOLUTION TO REOPEN THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN P.B.S. AND
12 K.C.E.T. IN ADDITION, TO GET THE LOCAL CONGRESSIONAL
13 DELEGATION ALL THE WAY FROM LOWEST CAPS UP THERE IN SANTA
14 BARBARA DOWN TO LONG BEACH AND COUNTY MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS, WHO
15 YOU GUYS KNOW, WHO COULD PUT THEIR NAMES ON LETTERS TO GET
16 THIS REOPENED, AND INCLUDE SOME DISTINGUISHED ARBITRATION
17 PEOPLE, PEOPLE LIKE GEORGE SCHULTZ, PEOPLE LIKE ROBERT REICH,
18 WHO TEACHES UP AT BERKELEY. LET'S SEE. MICHAEL EISNER, ELI
19 BROAD, PEOPLE WHO CAN GET IN THAT ROOM, GET THIS HAMMERED OUT
20 SO PEOPLE GET TO WATCH JIM LEHRER, GET TO WATCH "SESAME
21 STREET" AND TELEVISION IS ANOTHER WONDERFUL TIMES FOR THEM.
22 THANKS A LOT.

23

24 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. IS MR. GUTTERMAN NOT HERE? ALL
25 RIGHT. BEFORE I CALL ON MR. MAGANA COULD WE HAVE MR. SAM POLK



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1 JOIN US? IS MR. POLK HERE? OH, YOU ARE HERE. DAVID SERRANO AND
2 BOBBY COOPER. MR. MAGANA.

3

4 **CHRISTOPHER MAGANA:** MY NAME'S MR. MAGANA FROM THE FIFTH. I'M
5 HERE REGARDING AN ITEM THAT I PRESENTED LAST WEEK IN THE
6 FIRST, BUT FIRST I'D LIKE TO THANK MR. SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH
7 FOR HIS EAGLE EYE VIGILANCE REGARDING THE DECIMAL PERCENT ON
8 THOSE RETIREMENT FUNDS. VERY FEW PEOPLE REALIZE THAT A
9 FRACTION OF A PERCENT TOTALS A LOT OF MONEY OVER A LONG PERIOD
10 OF TIME. VERY IMPORTANT. THANK YOU. I WOULD ALSO, MR.
11 SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH, WOULD LIKE TO ASK FOR A SPECIAL
12 COMMENDATION FOR A GENTLEMAN NAMED RUDY MESA, THE MANAGER OF
13 ALBERTSON'S IN MONROVIA WHO ANSWERED OUR PLEA LAST WEEK
14 REGARDING PARTICIPATION ON THE COMMUNITY REGARDING OUR FEED
15 5,000 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN. WITHOUT BEING ASKED, AND TO OUR
16 INCREDIBLE SURPRISE, THEY OFFERED THE USE OF THEIR STORE. THEY
17 WENT-- HE WENT FAR BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY, SECTIONED OFF A
18 MAJOR PART OF THEIR PARKING LOT, THEY PROVIDED OUTDOOR MOBILE
19 REFRIGERATION, THEY PREPARED SEVERAL, DOZENS OF PREPACKAGED
20 MEAL KITS THAT PUBLIC COULD PURCHASE. THEY ARRANGED FOR FOOD
21 ARRANGEMENT THERE, TO BE BRED AS A FUNDRAISING EVENT AND AS A
22 RESULT WE WERE ABLE TO RAISE SEVERAL HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS IN
23 DONATIONS AND SEVERAL-- SO MANY BASKETS OF FOOD WERE DONATED,
24 WE COULDN'T EVEN CARRY IT AWAY. THEY OFFERED TO STORE IT
25 TEMPORARILY ON PALLETS AND HAVE ARRANGED FOR SEMIS TO COME AND



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1 DELIVER THIS SATURDAY MORNING, ON THE CORNER OF HACIENDA
2 BOULEVARD AND MAPLE GROVE WHERE THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE. I
3 STILL ENCOURAGE THE COMMUNITY AND ANYONE WHO WANTS TO DONATE
4 THEIR FUNDS, BRING FOOD OR CLOTHING TO DO SO. I WILL BE IN
5 CHARGE OF THE HOSPITALITY INFORMATION BOOTH THERE. IT IS AN
6 ANNUAL EVENT AND I AM SURPRISED AT HOW MANY PEOPLE WE'VE
7 ENCOUNTERED WHO HAVE NO IDEA THAT IT IS AN ANNUAL EVENT, SO
8 I'D LIKE TO BRING THAT TO THE ATTENTION, AND IF ANYONE HAS ANY
9 DETAILED INFORMATION, I COULD BE CONTACTED DIRECTLY AT AN
10 EMAIL THAT IS FEED 5,000 FUNDRAISING AT G-MAIL DOT COM, AND
11 THAT'S FEED, NUMERICAL 5,000, 5-0-0-0 FUNDRAISER AT GMAIL DOT
12 COM. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

13

14 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. MR. POLK.

15

16 **SAM POLK:** I'M A RETIRED MUNICIPAL LAWYER, SO ADVISING A
17 GOVERNING BOARD USED TO BE FAMILIAR TO ME, AND I'M HERE
18 BECAUSE I'M A FRIEND OF YOUR-- ONE OF YOUR GADFLIES, LEONARD
19 SHAPIRO, WHO IS A DEAR FRIEND [OVERLAPPING TALK.]

20

21 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** HE PASSED AWAY, DIDN'T HE?

22

23 **SAM POLK:** NO, NO, NO. HE HAD AN ACCIDENT THOUGH. HE'S TOO
24 BUSY. HE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE COME WITH ME.

25



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1 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** NINETY SOME YEARS OLD.

2

3 **SAM POLK:** BUT HE KNOWS ABOUT MY WRITING ABOUT THE ANIMALS AND
4 ABOUT EARTHQUAKES AND OTHER EARTHQUAKE FORERUNNERS. BUT I
5 WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU ADVICE, FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANY
6 ADVICE I'VE BEEN GIVEN A GOVERNING BOARD IN MY CAREER AS A
7 LAWYER, AND THAT IS TO HELP YOU TO AVOID DAMAGE TO YOU
8 MEMBERS, YOU SUPERVISORS PERSONALLY, AFTER THE BIG ONE HITS,
9 AND THAT IS NOT BEING KILLED, BECAUSE ANYBODY CAN GET KILLED
10 AS A MATTER OF ACCIDENT. IT WOULD BE THE AGONY OF REALIZING
11 THAT YOU HADN'T DONE ALL YOU COULD DO TO PREVENT THE LOSS OF
12 LIFE, WHICH THE SEISMOLOGISTS ESTIMATE AT 1,800, BUT MIGHT BE
13 SUBSTANTIALLY MORE, AND THAT IS I WANT TO URGE YOU TO HAVE A
14 FULL PUBLIC HEARING WITH ALL KINDS OF EXPERTS ON THE QUESTION
15 OF PUTTING TOGETHER THE ANIMAL FRIGHT PHENOMENON WITH SEVERAL
16 GEOPHYSICAL PHENOMENA THAT WOULD MAKE A MUCH MORE RELIABLE
17 WARNING BASIS THAN ANY ONE THING BY ITSELF. I HAVE LEGISLATIVE
18 EXPERIENCE. I SERVED ONE TERM IN THE COLORADO LEGISLATURE AND
19 WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO GET ON THE JUDICIARY AND FINANCE
20 COMMITTEES BECAUSE I SUPPORTED THE RIGHT GUY FOR SPEAKER. BUT
21 THE VARIOUS-- YOUR HEARING OUGHT TO INCLUDE VARIOUS EXPERTS,
22 INCLUDING INVITING, AND I'M SURE IF SOME-- ONE OF OUR
23 PHILANTHROPISTS COULD GIVE A LITTLE SEED MONEY, COULD TRAVEL
24 THEIR TRAVEL COSTS, COME FROM CHINA AND JAPAN. CHINA HAS HAD
25 SOME SUCCESS AND FAILURE WITH THE ANIMAL FRIGHT METHOD BY



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1 ITSELF. WHETHER CHINA HAS INCORPORATED OTHER THINGS, IN THEIR
2 FIRST SUCCESS AT HAICHENG [PH?] IN '74. THERE WERE PRECURSORS,
3 AND THE SEISMOLOGISTS COMBINED PRECURSORS WITH REPORTS FROM
4 CITIZENS GROUPS STUDYING THE ANIMALS. BUT AS YOU KNOW, THE
5 SEISMOLOGISTS HAD A CONFERENCE WHERE THEY GOT ALL KINDS OF
6 EXPERTS TOGETHER, THEY ESTIMATED THAT THE BIG ONE WILL BE
7 ABOUT 7.8. THAT MAKES IT 10 TIMES MORE POWERFUL THAN 6.8S, THE
8 NORTHRIDGE QUAKE, THAT THERE WOULD BE ABOUT 1,800 LIVES LOST
9 AND 213 BILLION OR SO. THESE ARE JUST PULLED OUT OF THE AIR.
10 IT'S HARD TO PIN DOWN THE DANGER OF UNREINFORCED BUILDINGS,
11 HOW MANY HOUSES ARE ON UNREINFORCED.

12

13 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SIR, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR INPUT.
14 THANK YOU, YOUR TIME IS UP. AGAIN, MR. ROBISON WASN'T HERE AND
15 MR. POLK WAS HERE. IS MR. SERRANO, BUT COULD WE ALSO BE JOINED
16 BY BOBBY COOPER, ERIC PREVEN AND IRENE PANG. MR. SERRANO.

17

18 **DAVID SERRANO:** LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, JESUS CHRIST, CREATED HEAVEN
19 AND EARTH. AMEN. IN THE HOLY BIBLE, THE APOCALYPSE PROPHESED
20 THAT THE BIGGEST EARTHQUAKE SINCE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ON EARTH
21 WILL HAPPEN ON THE SAN ANDREAS FAULT IN THE MONTH OF MAY
22 DESTROYING LARGE AREAS OF L.A. AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES. IN
23 THE APOCALYPSE OF JESUS CHRIST, THE PROPHECY ABOUT THE
24 APOCALYPTIC EARTHQUAKE ON THE SAN ANDREAS FAULT IN MAY IS THE
25 SEVENTH SEAL. THEN THE ANGEL OF CHAPTER 10, THEN THE 7TH



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1 TRUMPET, THEN THE SIXTH BOWL, THEN THE SEVENTH BOWL AND THEN
2 THE SIXTH SEAL. THESE ARE INDIVIDUAL PROPHECIES ABOUT THE SAME
3 EVENT. WHILE COLLECTIVELY THEY PROPHESED THIS CATASTROPHIC
4 EVENT IN ITS ENTIRETY. IN IRAQ, THE EUPHRATES RIVER IS DRYING
5 UP FAST, THE PATH IS ALREADY THERE. OVER 60 PERCENT OF THE
6 MARSHLANDS IN SOUTHERN IRAQ ARE DRY. HERE IN CALIFORNIA, THE
7 FORT TEJON QUAKE IN 1857 WAS THE LAST GREAT EARTHQUAKE ON THE
8 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SAN ANDREAS FAULT, A MAGNITUDE 7.9 EVENT
9 THAT RUPTURED MORE THAN 225 MILES OF FAULT WITH HORIZONTAL
10 DISPLACEMENT UP TO NINE METERS. APOCALYPSE EIGHT PROPHESED
11 WHEN THE LAMB OPENED THE SEVENTH SEAL, THERE WAS SILENCE IN
12 ABOUT HALF AN HOUR. ON THE FACE OF A CLOCK THERE ARE 12 HOURS.
13 THERE ARE 12 MONTHS IN A YEAR. ABOUT HALF AN HOUR IS THE
14 MINUTE HAND ON THE FIVE. MAY IS THE 5TH MONTH AND WHEN THE
15 APOCALYPTIC EARTHQUAKE HAPPENS IN MAY, THERE WILL BE A GREAT
16 STORM, THUNDER AND HEAVY HAIL AND WHEN THE APOCALYPTIC
17 EARTHQUAKE HAPPENS ON THE SAN ANDREAS FAULT IN MAY, THERE WILL
18 BE MANY METERS OF HORIZONTAL DISPLACEMENT. THUS THE SAN
19 GABRIEL, SAN BERNARDINO AND SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS WILL BE
20 MOVED OUT OF PLACE AND ISLANDS OFF THE COAST WILL BE MOVED OUT
21 OF PLACE, AND THERE WILL BE CATAclysmic LANDSLIDES THROUGHOUT
22 THE SANTA MONICA, SAN GABRIEL AND SAN BERNARDINO MOUNTAINS.
23 WHOLE MOUNTAINSIDES WILL COME CRASHING DOWN AND ENTIRE CITIES
24 DESTROYED. THESE LANDSLIDES WILL MAKE THE LA CONCHITA
25 LANDSLIDE IN VENTURA COUNTY LOOK VERY SMALL BY COMPARISON. THE



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1 HOLLYWOOD HILLS WILL BE DESTROYED. HOLLYWOOD STARS FALL FROM
2 HEAVEN TO EARTH, WHILE THE FIG TREE DROPPING ITS UNRIPE FRUIT
3 REPRESENTS THE BIG JEWISH COMMUNITIES OF THE SANTA MONICA
4 MOUNTAINS AND THEY FALL TOO. ALL THIS CATAclySMIC DESTRUCTION
5 WILL CAUSE GIANT CLOUDS OF SMOKE SMOKE, DIRT AND DEBRIS WHICH
6 WILL RISE INTO THE STY, BLOCKING OUT THE SUNLIGHT AND
7 PROVIDING GIANT AMOUNT OF CONDENSATION NUCLEI FOR THE GIANT
8 STORM, CAUSING GIANT HAILSTORMS WEIGHING OVER 50 POUNDS TO
9 FALL ON MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN AND BABIES, FALLING THROUGH THE
10 ROOFTOPS OF CARS, HOUSES, APARTMENTS, SMASHING PEOPLE INTO
11 POOLS OF BLOOD AND FLESH AND BONES AND SOME OF THEIR FAMILIES,
12 SOME OF THEIR FRIENDS WILL BLASPHEME BECAUSE THE PLAGUE OF
13 HEAVY HAILSTORMS IS SO TERRIBLE. IN BUSH, COLORADO, A
14 BASKETBALL-SIZED CHUNK OF ICE CRASHED THROUGH A ROOF AND INTO
15 THE KITCHEN OF A FAMILY'S HOME AFTER FALLING FROM AN AIRPLANE.
16 THIS IS AN EXAMPLE THAT A HEAVY PIECE OF ICE CAN SMASH THROUGH
17 A ROOF AND AGAIN, IT SCARED THE HECK OUT OF THEM. EVIL AL-
18 QAEDA TERRORISTS ATTACKED THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON
19 9/11/01, AND AFTER THE TOWERS FELL, GIANT CLOUDS OF SMOKE,
20 DUST, DIRT AND DEBRIS FILLED THAT PART OF MANHATTAN, RISING
21 INTO THE SKY. NOW WHEN THE APOCALYPTIC EARTHQUAKE STRIKES ON
22 THE SAN ANDREAS FAULT IN MAY, WHOLE MOUNTAINSIDES WILL COME
23 CRASHING DOWN AND ENTIRE CITIES DESTROYED. IT WILL BE
24 UNPRECEDENTED AMOUNTS OF GIANT CLOUDS, SMOKE, DUST, DIRT AND



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1 DEBRIS THAT WILL LITERALLY BLOCK OUT THE SUNLIGHT AND THE
2 MOONLIGHT AND THERE WILL BE NO ELECTRICITY AND--

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MR. SERRANO, YOUR TIME IS UP.

5

6 **DAVID SERRANO:** IT WILL HAPPEN IN THE MONTH OF MAY BEFORE THE
7 FULL MOON. THANK YOU.

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MR. COOPER IS NOT HERE. MR. PREVEN.

10

11 **ERIC PREVEN:** THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR. MR. YAROSLAVSKY, YOU ARE
12 OUR SUPERVISORIAL LEADER FROM THE DISTRICT THREE. I AM ERIC
13 PREVEN AND I AM REPRESENTING MY MOM, RUTH PREVEN WHO HAS FILED
14 A CLAIM AGAINST THE COUNTY. SHE DID SO IN JULY IN CONNECTION
15 WITH A MATTER IN WHICH HER DOGS WERE TAKEN IN OCTOBER OF 2009
16 AND HELD FOR SIX MONTHS. MS. ORDIN, WHO IS THE COUNTY COUNSEL,
17 HAS TAKEN A LOOK AT THIS MATTER AND I HAVE ASKED HER WHY,
18 SINCE THE COUNTY HAS NOT CONTESTED, IN FACT, THIS IMPOUNDMENT
19 OCCURRED AND THE DOGS WERE HELD FOR SUCH A LONG PERIOD OF TIME
20 WITHOUT A HEARING, AND IT'S QUITE CLEAR THAT THE CODE
21 INDICATES THAT THERE SHOULD BE SUCH A HEARING WHICH WOULD
22 CONSTITUTE DUE PROCESS. I'VE ASKED HER WHY THE COUNTY IS
23 COMFORTABLE IN OFFERING MY MOM ROUGHLY I THINK IT'S ABOUT 20
24 PERCENT OF WHAT SHE HAD TO EXPEND OUT OF HER POCKET IN ORDER
25 TO RETRIEVE HER DOGS AND HER ANIMALS. I KNOW IF YOU'RE A DOG



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1 OWNER OR AN ANIMAL OWNER, YOU MUST KNOW, AS MR. FUJIOKA IN THE
2 CORNER I SEE KNOWS, IT IS VERY, VERY ONEROUS TO HAVE SOMETHING
3 LIKE THAT HAPPEN HERE TO YOUR FAMILY, TO YOUR DOGS. DOGS ARE
4 NOT TECHNICALLY FAMILY, BUT CERTAINLY WHEN THEY LIVE WITH YOU
5 AND THEY BEHAVE IN A MANNER THAT'S CONSISTENT WITH MEMBERS OF
6 YOUR FAMILY, TO HAVE THEM TAKEN AWAY BY THE AUTHORITIES AND
7 DENIED REALLY AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEND THEMSELVES, IN AN
8 INCIDENT THAT MS. ORDIN WILL NOT DISPUTE WAS A DOG-ON-DOG
9 INCIDENT THAT HAD NO INJURY ON ANY HUMAN OR ANIMAL OR
10 OTHERWISE, AND IT RESULTED IN THIS TERRIBLE, TERRIBLE
11 SITUATION, WHICH WAS EITHER INADVERTENT OR NEGLIGENT, OR I
12 SHUDDER TO THINK, SOMETHING WORSE. BUT NONETHELESS, IT SHOULD
13 BE MADE RIGHT. IT SHOULD BE MADE RIGHT BY THIS BOARD BECAUSE
14 THE COUNTY COUNSEL REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, MS.
15 MOLINA, AND AS YOU KNOW, THIS IS AN ISSUE, A MATTER THAT
16 REALLY HAS TO DO WITH THE CONSTITUTION AND AS I'VE LEARNED,
17 THE CONSTITUTION IS ENFORCED BY ALL THE GREAT PUBLIC
18 OFFICIALS, BUT, AND EVERYBODY, INCLUDING ALL LAWYERS, ARE
19 SUPPOSED TO STOP IF THE CONSTITUTION IS NOT HEEDDED. I AM HERE
20 AT THE TOP OF THE COUNTY AND I'M ASKING FOR A SPECIFIC
21 RESPONSE TO WHY 5,000 DOLLARS IS OFFERED IN THE FACE OF
22 \$27,000 IN RECEIPTS. MR. ANTONOVICH, YOU CAN CERTAINLY
23 UNDERSTAND HOW A REVIEW OR AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THIS KIND
24 OF MATTER WOULD INDICATE THAT THERE NEEDS TO BE A RATIONALE OR
25 A REASON FOR SHORTCHANGING SOMEBODY WHO WAS DENIED SUCH A



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1 HORRIBLE THING. DENIED THEIR DUE PROCESS FOR CONSTITUTING A
2 TERRIBLE SITUATION. MS. ORDIN, DO YOU HAVE A RESPONSE FOR ME
3 ON THAT? WHAT IS THE RATIONALE?

4

5 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY.

6

7 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** I DON'T THINK IT'S APPROPRIATE FOR MS. ORDIN
8 TO ANSWER A QUESTION IN THIS KIND OF FORUM. I'M JUST GOING TO
9 SAY ONE THING, AND IT'S THE LAST TIME I'M GOING TO SAY IT TO
10 YOU. YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME, AND YOU HAVE BEEN WASTING EVERY
11 TUESDAY, SITTING HERE ALL THESE HOURS, WAITING TO SAY THE SAME
12 THING OVER AND OVER AGAIN. YOU HAVE A LEGAL BEEF WITH THE
13 COUNTY. YOU HAVE A REMEDY ON HOW TO DEAL WITH A LEGAL BEEF. I
14 AM NOT GOING TO INTERVENE IN THE MIDDLE OF A LEGAL DISPUTE.
15 I'M NOT GOING TO GET INTO THE FACTS, I'M NOT GOING TO GET INTO
16 THE ISSUES. SUFFICE IT TO SAY, A LOT MORE TO THIS THAN HAS
17 BEEN DISCUSSED HERE, BUT YOU-- IF YOU FEEL YOU'VE BEEN WRONGED
18 BY THE COUNTY, THE COUNTY DOESN'T FEEL THAT WAY-- BUT IF YOU
19 FEEL THAT YOU HAVE BEEN, THEN TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION AGAINST
20 THE COUNTY. YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN TO COURT WITH US. YOU HAVEN'T
21 FARED VERY WELL IN COURT WITH US, BUT TAKE --

22

23 **ERIC PREVEN:** I DISAGREE.

24



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1 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** THEN GO TO YOUR LAWYER AND TAKE US ON. MAYBE
2 YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT WE DON'T THINK SO, AND NO MATTER HOW MANY
3 TIMES YOU COME BACK HERE, AND WE'RE HAPPY TO SEE YOU EVERY
4 TUESDAY, NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU COME BACK HERE, IT'S NOT
5 GOING TO CHANGE A DAMN THING. OKAY? AND THAT'S ALL I'M GOING
6 TO SAY.

7

8 **ERIC PREVEN:** I APPRECIATE THAT. THANK YOU. (OFF-MIC.).

9

10 **ERIC PREVEN:** STANDING HERE IN FRONT OF ALL OF YOU VERY SENIOR
11 MEMBERS OF THIS COMMUNITY AND STATING THAT THERE WAS AN ERROR
12 IN JUDGMENT ON THE PART OF YOUR-- THE PEOPLE WHO WORK
13 ULTIMATELY FOR ALL OF US, BUT FOR YOU, AND YOU--

14

15 **SUP. YAROSLAVSKY:** MR. PREVEN, YOU'RE ENTITLED TO YOUR OPINION
16 AND WE ARE ENTITLED TO OURS. WE ARE IN DISAGREEMENT. NO MATTER
17 HOW MANY TIMES YOU COME HERE, AT LEAST I CAN SPEAK FOR MYSELF,
18 YOU'RE NOT GOING TO CHANGE MY MIND, SO COME BACK NEXT TUESDAY,
19 COME, BUT I'M NOT GOING TO SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT THIS AGAIN.
20 YOU'RE TAKING UP YOUR OWN TIME, MORE THAN OUR TIME, BECAUSE IT
21 TAKES YOU A LOT LONGER TO GET DOWN HERE THAN THE REST OF US,
22 AND I REALLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO, IF YOU FEEL YOU'VE BEEN
23 WRONGED, TO TAKE THE APPROPRIATE STEPS, THE REMEDIES THAT ARE
24 AVAILABLE TO YOU AND TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT.

25



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1 **ERIC PREVEN:** I'M NOT GOING TO SUE THE COUNTY. NOT NOW. I HAVE
2 FOUR MONTHS BEFORE WHICH TIME I HAVE TO DO SO, AND I
3 UNDERSTAND MY RIGHTS ABOUT THAT AND I APPRECIATE YOUR
4 OUTLINING THAT.

5

6 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU SO MUCH, SIR. THANK
7 YOU. MR. PREVEN, NEXT WE HAVE MISS PANG, IF YOU WOULD BEGIN.
8 AND THEN IF I COULD ALSO HAVE LEE PARADISE JOIN US AS WELL AS
9 JOHN WALSH.

10

11 **IRENE PANG:** MY NAME IS IRENE. I'VE BELIEVE OUR GOVERNMENT
12 HANDLE DIFFERENT KIND OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE PENDING AND
13 ORGANIZE. ALSO I BELIEVE THOSE IRREGULAR ACTIVITIES, EVEN
14 THOUGH THE REVELATIONS, THOSE SAME WAYS IN OUR SOCIETY.
15 BECAUSE THE ATTENTION TO MOST OF US THOSE CAUSE THEM HARMFUL
16 TO OUR SOCIETY AND DAILY LIVING. SOME THE MATTER IN THE SAME,
17 SOME THE MATTER IN THE SAME MANNER TO ME. GRADUALLY, BY THEIR
18 STEPS, EVEN THOUGH THE RESULT WILL BE IN THE DARKNESS. EVEN
19 THEY ARE THE STEPS ARE NOT FOLLOWED, THEY KNOW 20 THOSE THEM
20 IRREGULAR S AND THE _____ STEPS, THEY HAD TO STOP AND FOLLOW
21 THEY NOW TO THOSE THINGS ALL THE PROCEDURES. THANK YOU.

22

23 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU SO MUCH, MISS PANG. MR.
24 PARADISE.

25



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1 **LEO PARADISE:** MADAME SUPERVISOR AND SUPERVISORS, I SPOKE TO
2 YOU THE LAST TIME, SITTING BACK HERE AND I HAD TO MAKE A
3 DECISION WHETHER I WAS GOING TO REVEAL TO YOU WHAT I PROMISED
4 I WOULD REVEAL TO YOU THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE, BUT FIRST OF
5 ALL, I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT I COMMEND MRS. MOLINA, OR SUPERVISOR
6 MOLINA, ON HOW SHE HANDLED THE SITUATION WITH VERNON AND HOW
7 IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO HANDLE THE SITUATION WITH
8 VERNON. I WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR PRESENTATION. HAVING
9 SAID THAT, I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT I'D LIKE A MORE DEMOCRATIC LOS
10 ANGELES COUNTY LAW LIBRARY OR I MIGHT SAY THIS, THE LOS
11 ANGELES LAW LIBRARY. I AM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY LAW LIBRARY.
12 I, LEE PARADISE, AM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY LAW LIBRARY. I HAVE
13 THE NAME. I HAVE THE NAME. OKAY? I'LL EXPLAIN THAT TO YOU
14 LATER. BUT WHAT I DID WANT TO SAY TO YOU IS THAT YOU, MISS
15 MOLINA, ARE AN EX OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
16 THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY LAW LIBRARY, AND I'LL REPEAT THAT. MISS
17 MOLINA, YOU ARE AN EX OFFICIO TRUSTEE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
18 FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY LAW LIBRARY, THE SECOND LARGEST LAW
19 LIBRARY OF ITS KIND IN THE COUNTRY, IF NOT THE NATION. VERY
20 IMPORTANT PLACE. WHEN YOU SEE THOSE DOORS CLOSE, WE MIGHT SEE
21 SOME DOORS CLOSE ON FREEDOM. WE'VE GOT TO KEEP IT OPEN. WE
22 HAVE SOME PEOPLE IN PLACE WHO WOULD RATHER THAT THAT OPEN
23 FORUM NOT BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC. THEY'VE CUT BACK HOURS
24 SIGNIFICANTLY. IN 2003, THEY SAID WE DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY,
25 WE'VE GOT TO SHUT THIS PLACE DOWN. I SAID, " NO, YOU'RE NOT,"



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1 AND I SPEARHEADED THE EFFORT THAT IT DIDN'T GET DONE. I SUED
2 THEM A COUPLE OF TIMES TO GET THEIR ATTENTION, GOT THEIR
3 ATTENTION, TRIED TO KEEP THEM FROM SPENDING \$300,000 OF OUR
4 PUBLIC BIDDING, TRIED TO GET THEM NOW TO STOP-- TRY NOT TO
5 SPEND \$4 MILLION WITHOUT PUBLIC BIDDING TO DO SOME RATHER
6 RIDICULOUS THINGS SO THEY CAN THROW THE MONEY OUT THE WINDOW
7 AND SAY THEY DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY. MEANWHILE, YOU AS AN EX
8 OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CAN DECIDE WHETHER
9 YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE UP YOUR CHAIR TO ANOTHER ATTORNEY FROM
10 THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA OR SOME QUALIFIED MEMBER OF THE
11 PUBLIC. YOU SHOULD LOOK INTO IT UNDER BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS
12 CODE, SECTION 6300, 62, I CAN'T REMEMBER RIGHT NOW, I SHOULD
13 KNOW BETTER, BUT I DID SEND YOU A RATHER LENGTHY LETTER, ALL
14 OF YOU, HOW THAT CAN BE DONE. MEANWHILE, WHILE YOU'RE
15 CONSIDERING THAT, THERE ARE TWO MEMBERS, TWO MEMBERS OF THE
16 BOARD OF TRUSTEES THAT YOU CAN SELECT. THESE WOULD BE
17 ATTORNEYS. THE PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT CHOOSES
18 THE REST. WE'RE GOING TO SEE HOW WE HANDLE THAT, SUSAN
19 STEINHAUSER KENNETH KLEIN SHOULD NOT BE REAPPOINTED TO THAT
20 BOARD.

21

22 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, SIR. ALL RIGHT. MR. WALSH.

23

24 **JOHN WALSH:** JOHN WALSH BLOGGING AT HOLLYWOODHIGHLANDS, H-I-G-
25 H-L-A-N-D-S DOT ORG. OUR MEG WHITMAN POST RECEIVED 94,000 HITS



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1 IN ONE WEEK, OVER THREE WEEKS, ALMOST 200,000 HITS. I'D LIKE
2 TO POINT OUT HOLLYWOOD DEMS AT G-MAIL DOTCOM, KEEP THE
3 DOCUMENTS FLOWING. THAT'S OUR EMAIL, D-E-M-S, TWITTERING AT
4 HOLLYWOOD DEMS, FACEBOOKING AT MIKI JACKSON, M-I-K-I JACKSON.
5 ALL WE ARE SAYING IS GIVE PEACE A CHANCE. NOW, MISS ORDIN HAS
6 STEPPED OUT. YOU CANNOT SEE IT. UNDER THE BROWN ACT, YOU
7 CANNOT RESPOND WHILE THE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC IS SPEAKING. YOU
8 KNOW THAT'S THE RULE, ZEV. THAT'S THE LAW! I DON'T CARE HOW
9 NUTTY THESE PEOPLE ARE OR WHEN THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT WHEN THE
10 WORLD IS GOING TO END, YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO GRILL THEM! AND
11 THAT'S THE LAW! NOW MISS ORDIN, I DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S DOING.
12 HIDING BACK THERE? I WANT TO SAY ON "WHICH WAY L.A." LAST
13 NIGHT YOU AND MR. RIDLEY-THOMAS DISGRACED EVERYBODY IN THIS
14 COUNTY BECAUSE EVERY OTHER OF THE 57 COUNTIES DON'T HAVE
15 CHILDREN SWINGING, THEY DON'T HAVE CHILDREN SWINGING AND
16 DYING. DO YOU KNOW WHAT AN 11-YEAR-OLD LOOKS LIKE AFTER
17 THEY'VE BEEN HANGED? DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE PURPLE IN THE FACE,
18 THE TONGUE, AND YOU'RE SITTING THERE TALKING ABOUT ITS
19 SYSTEMIC, AND BELIEVE ME, HAD IT BEEN A WHITE CHILD, THE
20 ATTITUDE -

21

22 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** MR. WALSH, MR. WALSH, MR. WALSH. DON'T
23 YELL. I'M INTERRUPTING YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE YELLING.

24

25 **JOHN WALSH:** YOU'RE TALKING MY TIME AWAY FROM ME.



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1

2 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** NO. COME ON. WE CAN HEAR YOU. YOU'VE GOT A
3 MICROPHONE.

4

5 **JOHN WALSH:** I AM ANGRY! I AM CHANNELING-- I AM CHANNELING THE
6 DEAD 11-YEAR-OLD CHILD AND THE BLOOD OF THAT CHILD IS ON EVERY
7 ONE OF YOUR HANDS! AND YOU SIT THERE SMIRKING! AT LEAST HE
8 LOOKS AT ME. MARK LOOKS AT ME BECAUSE HE KNOWS IT'S RACISM!
9 THE OTHERS ALL HAVE THEIR HEADS DOWN BECAUSE THEY'RE ASHAMED!
10 AND YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED, MISS ORDIN, FOR ALLOWING THIS, AND
11 SO SHOULD FUJIOKA, AND I WANT YOU DO KNOW YOU CAME HERE WITH
12 AN IMPECCABLE REPUTATION, AND WHEN OTHER PEOPLE WORK FOR THE
13 COUNTY, WHEN YOU LEAVE, WILL YOUR REPUTATION BE IMPECCABLE? I
14 AM HANDING OVER TO YOU RIGHT NOW. WE HAVE BEEN BANNED, I HAVE
15 BEEN BANNED FROM SPEAKING AT M.T.A. BECAUSE THEY DON'T HAVE
16 CAMERAS OVER THERE. THEY DON'T HAVE CAMERAS OVER HERE. THAT'S
17 FOR HER, ANDREA ORDIN. THEY HAVE CAMERAS OVER HERE. ALL YOU
18 PEOPLE, 88 CITIES, IF YOU WEREN'T THERE, THEY WOULD HAVE
19 THROWN ME OUT AND BANNED ME! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?! YOU'RE MY
20 ONLY PROTECTION! THIS CAMERA IS MY ONLY PROTECTION! AND I HAVE
21 POINTED OUT MANY TIMES, AND I EXEMPT MR. THOMAS, THAT MY
22 FAMILY, THE MURPHYS, FOUGHT IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR FOR MY
23 RIGHT TO CALL YOU FOLLOWS, IDIOTS, MORONS OR ANYTHING I WANT!
24 JUST LIKE WE SAID WHAT KING GEORGE WAS. I WILL KEEP THAT. AND
25 ALL YOU NEWCOMERS, YOU FOUR NEWCOMERS TO THIS COUNTRY BETTER



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1 REALIZE, HOLLYWOOD HIGHLANDS DOT ORG, AND YES, I'M LOUD.

2 DEMOCRACY IS LOUD!

3

4 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** THANK YOU, MR. WALSH, THANK YOU, SIR. ALL

5 RIGHT. THAT CONCLUDES ALL OF OUR SPEAKERS, AND NOW WE HAVE --

6

7 **SPEAKER:** (OFF-MIC.)

8

9 **SUP. MOLINA, CHAIR:** AND NOW I'LL HAVE OUR EXECUTIVE OFFICER

10 CALL US INTO CLOSED SESSION.

11

12 **CLERK SACHI HAMAI:** IN ACCORDANCE WITH BROWN ACT REQUIREMENTS,

13 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WILL

14 CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS ITEM C.S.-1, CONFERENCE

15 WITH LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO

16 LITIGATION, ONE CASE; AND ITEM NUMBER C.S.-2, CONFERENCE WITH

17 LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING EXISTING LITIGATION, AS INDICATED ON

18 THE POST AGENDA. PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9

19 SUBSECTION C THE BOARD WILL BE DISCUSSING ITEM NUMBER 30 ON

20 TODAY'S AGENDA, CONSIDERATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR

21 THE MATTER ENTITLED ANA JIMENEZ DELGADO VERSUS COUNTY OF LOS

22 ANGELES. THANK YOU.

23

24

25



**The Meeting Transcript of
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1 **REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION ON NOVEMBER 16, 2010**

2

3

4

5 In closed session, item CS-1 was continued two weeks to
6 November 30, 2010.

7

8 CS-2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL EXISTING LITIGATION

9 (Subdivision (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9) Henderson
10 v. Los Angeles County, United States District Court Case No.
11 CV 08-03909 DDP

12

13 This litigation arises out of plaintiff s allegations that his
14 civil rights were violated when Sheriff's Deputies failed to
15 protect him from an assault by other inmates. (10-2697)

16

17 The Board authorized settlement of the matter titled Henderson
18 v. Los Angeles. The details of the settlement will be made
19 available once finalized by all parties. The vote of the Board
20 was unanimous with Supervisor Knabe being absent.

21

22 In closed session, item CS-3 was continued one week to
23 November 23, 2010.

24

25



**The Meeting Transcript of
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1 I, JENNIFER A. HINES, Certified Shorthand Reporter Number
2 6029/RPR/CRR qualified in and for the State of California, do
3 hereby certify:

4 That the transcripts of proceedings recorded by the Los
5 Angeles County Board of Supervisors November 16, 2010,
6 were thereafter transcribed into typewriting under my
7 direction and supervision;

8 That the transcript of recorded proceedings as archived
9 in the office of the reporter and which have been provided to
10 the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors as certified by
11 me.

12 I further certify that I am neither counsel for, nor
13 related to any party to the said action; nor
14 in anywise interested in the outcome thereof.

15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
16 22nd day of November 2010, for the County records to be used
17 only for authentication purposes of duly certified transcripts
18 as on file of the office of the reporter.

19

20 JENNIFER A. HINES

21 CSR No. 6029/RPR/CRR

22